

KEW HISTORICAL SOCIETY

P.O. BOX 175, KEW 3101

President: Mrs. Raie Brunette

Hon. Secretary:
Mrs. Thea Sartori

NEWSLETTER No. 20.

October, 1982.

Dear Members,

Pleasure comes in many ways - that you have conferred confidence in me as your President for 1982 gives me pleasure indeed.

I am greatly indebted to our Past President, Mrs. Jill O'Brien. I only hope when it is my turn to stand aside I can give the help, care, confidence and courtesies Jill has extended.

We have been fortunate in retaining our loyal executors in Miss Irene Stones, Mr. Jack Copeland, and lastly the wisdom of Miss Winifred Hall. Mrs. Thea Sartori and myself as the new girls complete the team.

Mrs. Elizabeth Mackie has supplied guidance and understanding, which we appreciate. We are sorry Elizabeth will not be among us as a permnancy, but the ties are strong and the contact will be retained.

Mrs. Kathleen Murphy has had a distressing year with ill-health. We are hopeful that 1983 will prove that time is the great healer and find her among us once again.

We have had an inaugural committee meeting and I would like to commend the immediate dates for your diary.

Wednesday, 10th November is the last meeting of the Society for 1982. Elizabeth Mackie will speak on "The Effect of the Australian Environment on Australian Literature and Art."

Would members please remember that tickets for the Society's Christmas function, Wednesday, 15th December, must be booked and paid for by the November meeting. Cost \$10.95 per head.

May I extend wishes for a happy festive season.

RAIE BRUNETTE.

DONATIONS.

Five photographs of members of Whitman and Padbury families; another of first Padbury Funeral Parlor in Cotham Road and an early Scripture text birthday book - Mrs. Clarice Thompson.
1837 M.M.B.W. Map - Mr. Stuart West.
Zenith Press, Mr. J. Harrison - Society headed envelopes.
Chapman "Family History" - Mrs. A. Parratt.
A 1897 Queen Victoria Golden Jubilee Medal and a 1919 Peace Medal.
Miss Irene Stones.

Kew Historical Society

President's Report to the 24th Annual General Meeting, 13th October 1982.

Mr Mayor, Members and Friends,

It is with much pleasure that I present the 24th Annual Report of the Kew Historical Society. Mrs Mackie, in her comprehensive Honorary Secretary's report, has outlined the major events for the past year and I do not therefore propose to duplicate her excellent summary. I would however, like to add my own sincere thanks to the Office Bearers and Committee for their ever-willing efforts on behalf of the Society and to the members and friends who contributed in every way to the activities which we've enjoyed during the year.

In her 1979 President's Report, Miss Winifred Hall expressed her regret that there were "no suitable premises where the Society's documents and artifacts could be stored and displayed for the people of Kew." This lack has been briefly met in the past two years by the generous shop-window space provided by Cr. Joe Ormando combined with the artistic talents of Mrs Elizabeth Mackie, Miss Hall and Mrs Jess Reed. The public display of some of our old gowns, photographs and books - with the concurrently conducted bus tours using Joy Stewart's guide-notes during the Kew Festival week in March - has generated great interest in the Society and demands for information well beyond our capacity to satisfy.

It is obvious that the need for an appropriate home, in this city of some historic note, is sympathetically recognised - as a recent letter from the City Manager demonstrates. In this, Mr Fell offered to arrange temporary storage of the Society's Collection, if necessary, but also outlined the future possibility of permanent headquarters in the existing Post Office, in the event that Kew Council gains possession of that building. This presents an exciting prospect and one which we will all follow closely.

The Town Planner, Mr John Waugh, has worked with the Society on several projects during the year and his assessment ability, enthusiasm and interest in our historic buildings has been inspiring to all of us who have participated in recent joint building inspections. It would, I think, be desirable for the Society to formally suggest to Kew Council that the City apply for a grant to enable the Town Planning Department to undertake a Heritage Study - as has been recently completed by the City of Heidelberg.

The assistance and co-operation of the Library staff has again been very much appreciated - particularly their permission to photocopy the AGM meeting notice and Agenda "out of hours". Other notices were most kindly copied by Mrs Elizabeth Bennet, secretary to the City Manager and always a gracious supporter of the Society.

And so, with helpful back-up and our small but dedicated membership, the Society can look forward to a bright future.

I thank members for the privilege of being their President and wish the incoming Executive a happy and successful term of office.

Jill O'Brien

Jill O'Brien

President.

13/10/82.

KEW HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

TWENTY-FOURTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD IN THE AUXILIARY ROOM
OF THE KEW MUNICIPAL CHAMBERS AT 7.34 P.M. ON WEDNESDAY,
13th OCTOBER, 1982.

HONORARY SECRETARY'S REPORT.

Looking back over the year that has passed I think we have been fortunate to have a good working team who have all pulled together to lead our Society through a busy year. I would like to emphasise splendid teamwork, an interesting year for members, and some solid historical work achieved for the future in a quiet but ongoing way.

The list of speakers has been an interesting one and meetings have stimulated discussions and increased our awareness of history from archeological digs to the preservation of local houses. We have worked with the National Trust and the Historic Buildings Council to classify and preserve some of the buildings which are the heritage of Kew.

The important Oral History Project which will be taped and printed as a permanent historical record of Kew in 1938 by the Australian National University, Canberra, for the Bicentenary of Australia, has been launched by the collection of people willing to relate their personal histories.

Our publication of historical booklets has proved popular, and a steady source of income. Due to the age of the 1875 map photocopying has ceased and the map has been covered with perspex for protection.

Our Society conducted a tour of Boroondara Cemetery for Doncaster/Templestowe Historical Society, a Younger Trust Walk Around Kew, and the highly successful bus tours with commentaries in Kew Festival Week. In the same week, which was also Heritage Week, an exhibition of archive material on The Writers of Kew was displayed in High Street shopping centre.

It is obvious that during the course of the year we have in various ways managed to increase the knowledge and awareness of people to our historic background in Kew. Our membership is growing slowly, our finances are in a healthy state, our archival material is accumulating steadily, and we look forward to future progress. The future of the Copy Shop is uncertain, as the building is destined for demolition. Good relationships which exist with Kew Council, and which have existed for the past twenty-four years when our founder, Councillor Dickinson, was a serving councillor and twice Mayor of Kew, have continued, and it is a comfort to know that the Council will house and store our archives and artifacts until such time as a permanent display and storage room can be found for our collection.

I would like to thank our extremely busy and efficient President, Councillor Jill O'Brien, and our Vice Presidents Winifred Hall and Kathleen Murphy, who have both stepped into the breach when needed. I sincerely thank our competent and helpful typist and Assistant Secretary, Irene Stones, our conscientious Treasurer, Mr. Copeland, and our well-informed and capable Archivist, Kathleen Murphy. I thank our Social Committee, Rae Brunette, Clarrie Thompson and their willing helpers, and our faithful supper team Laurie Dean and Rhona Jenkins, and Grace McDermott whose quiet efficiency has helped The Copy Shop to function this year. And finally I would thank Barbara Giles for being our literary voice in the Kewriosity Sheet each month. Mention should also be made of the helpful reporting of our activities by the local press.

Elizabeth Madue

HONORARY TREASURER'S REPORT.

The year 1980-82 has been a successful year as far as members and finances are concerned. Membership has remained practically the same as last year. We have gained some half a dozen new members and lost one through resignation.

In reference to other members there are at present about a dozen who have not paid dues to 1982. We will attempt to collect some of this money in the Newsletter now in effect.

Finances have remained stable as our closing balance in 1980-81 was \$700.22 and this year \$670.03 which is only some \$30.00 less than 1980-81. This is offset by \$50.00 paid as deposit on dinner which will be recovered, and our only liabilities at the moment are \$24.00 rent owing to Kew City Council which, as you can now see, approximates the closing balance of last year.

Special mention should be made of those volunteers who this year raised \$263.51 on the street stall, an increase of \$96.41 on last balance. The sales of publications were also increased by \$74.10. As was expected map sales were down \$150.00 on the year due to the many maps sold the previous year. Other small items showed minimum rises on the previous year. However, our receipts for 1980-81 were \$1,498.92 and for 1981-82 \$1,539.25, which shows that the Society is still holding its own in a trying economic period. We also added \$350.00 to our deposit stock to bring the total to \$800.00. This is a reserve, some of it to be spent on archive activities.

In closing I would like to extend to the President, Committee and our Auditor, Mr. Max Sartori, and especially to Miss Irene Stones, my special thanks for their help and co-operation.

J. COPELAND.

NEW OFFICE BEARERS FOR 1983.

PRESIDENT	Mrs. Raie Brunette
HONORARY SECRETARY	Mrs. Thea Sartori
ASSISTANT HONORARY SECRETARY	Miss Irene Stones
VICE PRESIDENTS	Miss Winifred Hall
	Mrs. Jill O'Brien
HONORARY TREASURER	Mr. Jack Copeland
COMMITTEE:	
Street Stall Convenor	Mrs. Clarrie Thompson
Copy Shop Convenor	Mrs. Clancy Crowe
Supper Convenors	Mrs. Laurie Dean, Miss Rona Jenkins

NEW MEMBERS.

Mrs. I. Fryer	Dr. E. W. Russell
Mrs. C. Flack	Miss T. Kuhnemann
Mrs. P. Weaver	Councillor J. L. McCue

OBITUARY. Members extend sincere sympathy to Mrs. J. O'Neill on the recent death of her husband, Mr. John O'Neill, author of "The Church on the Hill", and esteemed member of the Society.

THE COPY SHOP, will be closed for Historical Society business from 29th October to February, 1983.

A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all our members