

Kew Historical Society Inc.

Founded 1958



Incorporated 1987

NEWSLETTER No. 86

JANUARY 2008

A LETTER from the PRESIDENT

Dear members,

It's a fast changing world we live in. Too fast. Too much changes for the sake of change.

In today's Herald-Sun there is a feature article by Bob Hart on the state of the Historic Ballroom above the Flinders Street Railway Station. The Ballroom is featured in a current photographic exhibition by two European artists here in Melbourne, whose aim is to embarrass our politicians into doing something about the present state of the former Railway's Ballroom.

"We want Melbournians to understand something about their city that they may not previously thought about ... it (the Ballroom) is, after all, inside the most famous building in Melbourne" said the Viennese photographer, Yenny Huber.

"Sadly, I don't think there is the same appreciation of old buildings and artefacts in Australia as there is in Europe. Europeans value their history highly while Australians tend to look more to the future It is our intention to draw attention to the mystery and the beauty of the Ballroom, but also to act as a wake up call for the government to get on with restoring it," Huber says.

We urge Local Government to take note and trust that this wake up call will be heard all over the suburbs of Melbourne. It certainly applies to the Kew Court House and Police Station, which is now "mothballed" for essential repairs pending the raising of a further \$1.6 million which is needed for its restoration.

The Bus Tour & Cemetery Walk will be held on Sunday 9th March at 2pm, as part of the Kew Festival programme, but due to altered circumstances, it is proposed that our special display celebrating our 50th Anniversary and the 120th Birthday of the Kew Court House, be held towards the end of the year.

Dione McIntyre

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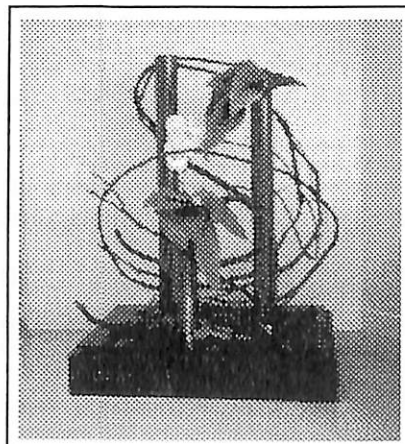
*Still serving the
community, families,
schools, students,
historians and
other researchers*

Est. 1958

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FIRST MEETING WEDNESDAY 13TH FEBRUARY 2008



At our first meeting for 2008 our guest speaker is our talented honorary secretary Thea Sartori. She has been an exponent of the art of Ikebana for 35 years, and has been a teacher for 12 years. Thea has achieved the rank of "somu" and is in the Sogetsu school, 1 of 5 schools in Melbourne, and will be exhibiting in the Melbourne Garden Show under the umbrella of Ikebana International.

DID YOU KNOW .. ?

The following items are extracts from Kew Council records as reported in W. D. Vaughan's "Kew's Civic Century (1960)

Arising from complaints of stray dogs in the shopping areas, the Council, in June, 1937, made an order prohibiting dogs in shopping areas unless under the effective control of some person by means of a chain, cord or leash. (page 195)

The contract for lighting kerosene street lamps in Kew was terminated on November 21, 1911. It was not until 1927 that the Council decided to change all street lighting to electricity. Gas lamps then cost £6/15/6 each per annum and electric £4/4/- per annum. (page 189)

In 1911, the Council initiated a series of moonlight concert concerts in the Alexandra Gardens. They were held at the full moon, or as near as possible, from November to March. The Kew City Band played selections, and moving pictures were screened. (page 189)

In March, 1930, the Royal Automobile Club of Victoria complained to the Kew Council of the nuisance to traffic caused by herds of cattle being driven along Studley Park Road on Friday evenings. The Council decided to bring the complaint under the notice of drovers. (page 192)

In September, 1913, the Council approved of a draft by-law requiring vehicles to have a light so placed as to be distinctly visible at the rear of such vehicle. (page 190)

In 1911, the attention of the police was directed to the practice of playing cards on Sundays in Victoria Park. (page 189)

KEW FESTIVAL

Our participation in the Kew Festival is as follows:

SUNDAY	9th March	2-4pm	Historic Bus Tour of Kew Meet at 1.45pm Bus leaves Civic Drive outside Phyllis Hore Room
		2-4pm	Cemetery Tour - comfortable walking shoes needed Meet at Gates to Boroondara Cemetery at 2pm BOOKINGS REQUIRED FOR BOTH TOURS Contact: Dorothy Benyei PH:
SATURDAY	15th March	11am	Participate in Street Parade. Theme: Historical Kew Meet in Fenton Way carpark We need members to march in the parade. It is fun! To volunteer, please ring our secretary Thea Sartori, Ph:

VILLA ALBA MUSEUM INC

Villa Alba Museum Inc. is open on the first Sunday of every month from 1pm to 4pm.

Admission charges:

Family	\$20
Adults	\$10
Concession	\$8
Children under 12	free

The house is re-opening after repairs.

Sunday 16th March is a Free Family Day to coincide with the last day of Kew Festival

For further information www.villaalbamuseum.org

**KEW HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC.
MEMBERS OF COMMITTEE 2007-8**

President: Dione McIntyre
 Vice Presidents: Philip Slobom
 Margaret Robinson
 Hon. Secretary: Thea Sartori
 Assist. Secretary:
 Hon. Treasurer: Jill O'Brien
 Archivist: Dorothy Benyei
 Committee: Rosemary Smart
 Joan Simms
 Graeme Lindsay
 Public Officer: Thea Sartori
 Hon. Auditor: Max Sartori
 Newsletter Editor: Margaret Robinson

Digitisation Officer: Tony Michael
 Supper Co-ordinator: Joan Simms
 Tour booklets: Dorothy Benyei (convenor)
 Lex Allen
 Rosemary Smart
 Tony Michael
 Margaret Robinson
 Ken Sillcock (consultant)
 Kew Festival Rep: Graeme Lindsay
 Villa Alba Rep: Margaret Robinson
 B. H. S. A. Reps: Rosemary Smart
 Margaret Robinson

BOOK SALES

These will continue to be held in the Phyllis Hore room from 1 to 4 pm on Sundays.
 Book Sale Dates for 2008:

February	16th Saturday Set up 1:30 →	17th Sunday Sale 1:00 - 4:00 Clean up 4:00 →
May	17th Saturday Se tup 1:30 →	18th Sunday Sale 1:00 - 4:00 Clean up 4:00 →
August	16th Saturday Set up 1:30 →	17th Sunday Sale 1:00 - 4:00 Clean up 4:00 →
November	15th Saturday Set up 1:30 →	16th Sunday Sale 1:00 - 4:00 Clean up 4:00 →



BOOK SALE

SUNDAY 17th February

(Setting up starts 1 pm Saturday)
 SALE starts at 1 pm & stops at 4pm

Clearing up starts 4 pm

Helpers are needed both days,
 Especially before and after sale

Please put this date in your diary
 and come
 All help appreciated

Setting up starts at 1:30 pm on the Saturday before the sale and continues until finished.
 The sale starts at 1pm on Sunday and finishes at 4pm. Clearing up starts at 4pm on Sunday
 Donations of good saleable books are very welcome. These can be left at the Kew Library.
 The Library will continue to be involved and the proceeds from the book sales will be shared.
 We would welcome your help in setting up from 1:30pm Saturday and/or cleaning up on Sunday
 from 4.00pm

MINI BOOK SALES

Kim has recently recommenced his mini book sales on Sunday afternoon in the library foyer during library hours . The books include some which have not been presented at the previous quarterly book sales

2008 CALENDAR

Wednesday 8pm

We meet monthly in the Phyllis Hore Room on the second Wednesday of each month unless otherwise announced.

February 13th	"Ikebana" with Thea Sartori
March 12th	Volkhard Wehner "The Griffiths family"
April 9th	Tony Michael "Images of Kew"
May 14th	A Business Person of Kew - to be advised
June 11th	Trinity Grammar School
July 9th	Member Travel Night
August 13th	Gerry Petrie Kew Council
September 10th	Dr Des Parkin History of Glass Creek
October 8th	Annual General Meeting The Mayor Cr. Coral Ross
November 12th	Family History
December 10th	Christmas Party Note: 7pm start

MEMBERSHIP FEES

2007-2008

These are due on 1st July each year

- Individual \$15
- Family \$17
- Student \$5

We invite all interested people to join our society and enjoy our speakers and discussions on local history in an atmosphere of warm friendship.

NEW MEMBERS

We extend a warm welcome to the following new members

- Wendy Baden-Powell
- Andrew Dixon
- George Fernando
- Robin Kelly

RECENT DONATIONS

Our recent donations include:

- Jill O'Brien - quantity of white cotton sheets
- Jocelyn Clarke - cut throat razor
- Margaret Robinson -s. s. cutlery
- Anon - repaired kitchen scales
- Les Littlechild - roller skates
- Clarrie Thompson - 2 ss sandwich trays, a china plate, copper tray, hair clippers, 2 safety razors, 2 pairs doeskin gloves, enamel chamber pot, photoalbum, Jansen swimsuit, forks and spoons, 2 green velvet hats, 2 prs step-ins, 3 coathangers, a skrt hanger & sewing basket.
- Rosemary Smart - lady mannequin
- Kevin Tierney - old State Savings Bank passbook
- Ren Evans - metal doll's pram, metal doll's house, 2 raggedy dolls and a pig
- Carole Hooper - photo image horse and gig

ACQUIRED

Father Xmas boots from North Kew kerbside with householder's permission.