

# VILLAGE VOICE



News Bulletin of the Queen Street and West Woollahra Association

PO Box 50 Woollahra NSW 2025

FEBRUARY 1973

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**1**

With this VILLAGE VOICE you will receive a survey form. These are being distributed to every home in the area to enable the association to get an accurate profile of the people who live in West Woollahra and their planning needs. Please complete the form and return as soon as possible. The few minutes it will take is a worthwhile investment in seeing your area is made and kept the way you want it.

**2**

Membership of the association is now approximately equivalent to 10 per cent of the homes in the area. It should be much higher. If you are not already a member please join us. There's a membership application on the back page of this news bulletin.

**3**

The association will hold a public meeting at the Congregational Church Hall, Jersey Road on THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15TH, AT 8 P.M.

Current local planning development will be discussed and Mrs. John Kingsford Smith from the National Trust will give a talk, illustrated with slides, on the Trust's work. Members, prospective members and non-members will be equally welcome. So please come.

## NEARER MY GOD TO THEE ?

The Anglican Church, which owns the site of Edgecliff railway station, is attempting to leap into the heavens with a rather ghastly plan for a 480ft tower building of 37 storeys, right at the corner of Ocean Street and New South Head Road.

Woollahra Council is opposing the scheme and members of our association supported the Council with evidence when the matter was before the Lands Tribunal recently.

Our association has told Woollahra Council we consider that, due to its dimensions, the proposed building would be completely out of scale and character with existing and likely future development in the area and would be visually incongruous on the proposed site.

## OLD PEOPLE'S HOME ( ROUND TWO )

Last year, Woollahra Council rejected the Society of St. Vincent de Paul's plan for an old people's home at 121 Queen Street. Although our association does not oppose using the site for an old people's home, we found several aspects of the plan objectionable from an architectural and planning standpoint.

The Society has now lodged a new plan with the Council for a "residential flat building" with 23 single and 3 double bedrooms. Main change in the revised plan is that the building will be set 78ft back from Queen Street, behind an existing stand of tall trees which will be incorporated in a terrace in front of the home. As a result it will be very much less obtrusive than in the original scheme.

A croquet lawn will run down from the terrace to an attractive wall with alcove gardens on the Queen Street frontage. The only vehicle access will be in Morton Lane, and the kitchen will face on to this instead of neighbouring property.

Although many objections to the original plan have been overcome, a committee member who has studied the scheme notes: "The building itself is still ugly and the rooms too small."

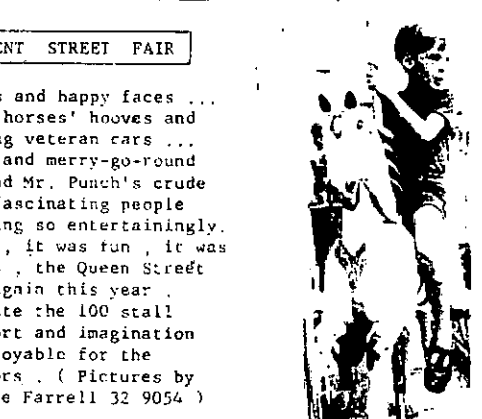
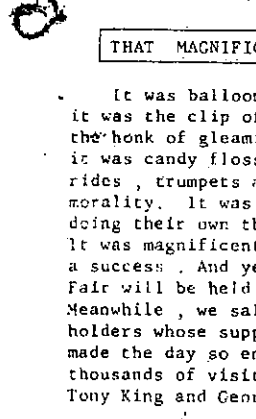
Our association is not making any general objection to the new proposal. However, we would urge Queen Street residents who might be affected to make their views, for or against, known to the Council.

## REVIVAL FOR THE DIAMOND HORSESHOE ?

A plan to relocate the Diamond Horseshoe on James Street and reopen it as a reception centre (of the type used for weddings, no lunatics) is causing some local concern.

The association believes dilapidated buildings should be sympathetically restored. However, we are also concerned that local residents might suffer from noise and other nuisance from the centre's activities.

The association has therefore asked Woollahra Council for an assurance that if the application is granted, the James Street right of way will be safeguarded and noise from the premises kept to a minimum.



## THAT MAGNIFICENT STREET FAIR

It was balloons and happy faces ... it was the clip of horses' hooves and the honk of gleaming veteran cars ... it was candy floss and merry-go-round rides, trumpets and Mr. Punch's crude morality. It was fascinating people doing their own thing so entertainingly. It was magnificent, it was fun, it was a success. And yes, the Queen Street Fair will be held again this year. Meanwhile, we salute the 100 stall holders whose support and imagination made the day so enjoyable for the thousands of visitors. ( Pictures by Tony King and George Farrell 32 9054 )



# Queen St. Commentary

The boutique development at the corner of Spicer Street and Queen Street has more than come up to expectations. Pagan's Pavilion is a poem in commercial chic, with its lime and porcelain decor.

Another newcomer is Sabini at 83 Queen Street, alias interior decorator Sabina van der Linden of Double Bay. Sabina jets to Europe in a few weeks to buy modern furniture to add to her range of interesting imported glass and china.

Quick quiz - Where's Weldon Lane? Give up? It links Holdsworth St and Alton St. A post in Holdsworth St where the sign should be has been bare for years. Come on somebody, let's put Weldon Lane back on the map.

A mild cheer for Richard Hanly who has removed the opaque red and blue paintwork which made the window of his Woollahra Eating House look for a while like the flag of some obscure European republic.

The window is now transparent again, and passers-by who gain vicarious interest from watching other people eat are no longer denied their full pleasure.

## APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

NAME .....  
(please state Mr, Mrs, or Miss)

ADDRESS.....  
.....  
.....

Post, together with \$2 for first year's subscription to the Association at Box 50, P.O. Woollahra, N.S.W. 2025

## THE QUEEN STREET AND WEST WOOLLAHRA ASSOCIATION

A residents' action association covering the area bounded by Jersey Rd., Ocean St., and Oxford St., West Woollahra, N.S.W.

ADDRESS: Box 50, P.O. Woollahra, N.S.W. 2025

SUBSCRIPTION: \$2 a year

CHAIRMAN: Leo Schofield

HON. SECRETARY: Mrs. Joy Barraclough (32.4398)

COMMITTEE: Miss Rowan Beckett, Mr. Robin Brampton, Mr. Karl Feller ARAIA, Mr. Michael Magnus, Mr. Neville Marsh, Mr. John Newton Mrs. Patricia Thompson

VILLAGE VOICE is published approximately every two months. Letters and other contributions on local topics are invited. The editor is Robin Brampton (31 6305 day, 32 4475 evening and weekends).

## NEW MEMBERS

Mrs. N.B. Ahern  
Mr. J.A. Burnard  
Mr. L. Crane  
Mr. Neville Guzman  
Mrs. June Hazell  
Mrs. Jean Hermes  
Mr. J. Lucas  
Mr. and Mrs. Elwyn Lynn  
Mrs. A. Mathieson  
Mr. R.E. Newton  
Mrs. M. Pritchard  
Dr. and Mrs. Roper  
Mr. G. Samios  
Mrs. Sabina van der Linden  
Mr. and Mrs. L.C. von Heiszén