

Mosman Historical Society - Newsletter 19 October 2010

Greetings members

I have attached a flyer with the details of our last meeting for the year. Come along to Mosman Library at 7pm on Wednesday 10 November to hear Peter Golding speak about the life of John Cahill. This will be followed by wine and Christmas cake.

Anyone who still wants to come along to our lunch next Monday has until tomorrow to post in their form plus cheque. If you are a "late entry" please let me know so that we can advise the final numbers to the Mosman Club.

There are some interesting RAHS activities coming up. For bookings call 9247 8001 or go to www.rahs.org.au

* Wed 3 Nov: Day Lecture: A Brief History of Sydney Ferries

Bill Allen, former commercial Manager of Sydney Ferry Services from 1989 to 1992 and Australia's leading historian on Sydney Harbour ferries, will give a PowerPoint presentation on the history of Sydney Ferries. The talk will cover the Lane Cove & Parramatta River services, Balmain service, Manly & Watson's Bay runs. Bill will also speak on the types of ferries used on these runs and the acquisition of the Sydney Ferries Limited. Before the Sydney Harbour Bridge was opened in 1932, this was the biggest ferry company in the world and provided 47 million passenger trips every year.

Time: 1.00pm at History House Cost: \$5.00 members,
\$7.00 non-members

* Thurs 4 Nov: Port Hacking River Cruise

In 1796 Bass and Flinders explored and mapped Port Hacking in the Tom Thumb 11, a small 8ft long rowing boat. Join RAHS members for a three hour scenic cruise on the M.V. Tom Thumb 111. We will explore the upper reaches of the Hacking River, one of Sydney's most unspoiled waterways, with its many bays and inlets down to the open expanses of Port Hacking and Bate Bay. A full commentary will be provided as we pass historical settlements and aboriginal sites, and other places of interest.

Time: Meet at 10.15am for a 10.30am departure from the public wharf on Gunnamatta Bay, just near Cronulla Railway Station. Parking for cars is available. Morning tea is provided and the cruise returns at 1.30pm.

Cost: \$25.00 seniors/pensioners; \$30.00 adults. Bookings essential by 29.10.2010.

* Sat 6 Nov: Fork & Talk: Old Theatres of Sydney

From the 1920s to the present, there has been a vibrant theatre culture in Sydney. John Wright, resident of Waverley and member of the Waverley Historical Society, uses programs of theatre performances to provide the background to this informative presentation which brings both theatres and past performers to life.

Time: 5.00pm – 7.30pm at History House Cost: \$26
members: \$30 non-members. Includes talk and dinner.

* Tues 30 Nov: Evening Lecture: Cockatoo Island Dockyard, 1857–1991

One of the treasures of Sydney Harbour, Cockatoo Island, has a remarkable history, starting as a penal establishment and becoming a major shipbuilding and ship repair facility which made a considerable contribution to Australia's maritime affairs for 134 years. Naval architect John Jeremy worked at Cockatoo Island for 32 years, the last ten years as the last Chief Executive of the Dockyard. In his presentation he will outline the history of the dockyard and, in particular, the work done there in peace and war. A joint RAHS and ASHET activity.

Time: 5.30 for 6pm at History House Cost: \$8.00 Includes
light refreshments on arrival.

* Wed 1 December: Day Lecture: The Discovery of Gold in NSW and its diverse divide

Anne Sullivan will tell us how the discovery of gold in 1851 transformed NSW. Youthful enterprising immigrants flocked to Australia and the significant contribution of some of these immigrants will be discussed. There was a huge demand for mining tools and equipment and innovative industrialists capitalized on this and other burgeoning industries. Sydney's prestige was enhanced by the opening of the Mint. The gold rushes inspired artists, authors and poets and fostered democracy.

Time: 1.00pm at History House Cost: \$5.00 members, \$7.00
non-members

Regards

Pam Lofthouse