



## Hotham History Project Inc.

Estab 1995

C/o North Melbourne Library, 66 Errol Street,  
North Melbourne, Vic. 3051 - Phone 03 9328 9700

Website [hothamhistory.org.au](http://hothamhistory.org.au)  
Enquiries [info@hothamhistory.org.au](mailto:info@hothamhistory.org.au)

ABN 89 919 256 977

# Hotham History News

## Winter 2014

Dear friends and supporters of Hotham History Project.

Although we are still in the depths of winter we are looking forward to Spring and seeing you at our Annual General Meeting later in August and at the Spring Fling Festival on Sunday 19 October 2014.

### Annual General Meeting

Our AGM will be held at 2.00 pm on Saturday 30 August in the Hotham Room at the North Melbourne Library.

The agenda for the meeting will be circulated shortly and includes a call for nominations for committee members for the forthcoming year. If you would like to serve on the committee please fill in the nomination form on the back of the AGM flyer or complete the nomination form that appears on our website at: [www.hothamhistory.org.au](http://www.hothamhistory.org.au).

The current members of the committee are:

**Chair: Lorna Hannah**  
**Deputy Chair: Rae Nicholls**  
**Treasurer: Marlene Shanahan**  
**Secretary: Mary Kehoe**

**Ordinary members:** Jenny Cook, David Evans, Felicity Jack, Heather McKay, Lyn Martin, Guy Murphy, John Poynter and Lorraine Siska.

Thanks to those members who have renewed their membership and a gentle reminder to those who intend to renew. You can renew at the AGM, by bank transfer, or leave a completed form and payment at the North Melbourne Library.

We would also like to hear your suggestions for future activities or topics for future research. You can do this by contacting one of the committee or sending an email to:

[info@hothamhistory.org.au](mailto:info@hothamhistory.org.au).

**Guest Speaker: Judith O'Neill at 2.30 pm (approx).**

Our guest speaker Immediately following the AGM, is Judith O'Neill, an author and researcher on inner city housing. Judith will give a talk entitled "Bringing in Change" – a history of housing in Inner Melbourne in the 1960's.

As part of this topic we will also have on display a collection of Oswald Barnett's photos of slum housing in early North Melbourne.



Oswald Barnett standing in front of 19 Byron Street, North Melbourne circa 1930's.

### Spring Fling – Sunday 19 October 2014.

Hotham History will again have a stall at this year's Spring Fling on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> of October. HHP publications will be on display for sale. If you are able to assist on the stall for an hour or two we would be delighted to hear from you.

**Talk – Mary Kehoe, The Melbourne Benevolent Asylum.**

**Tuesday 28 October 2014. Venue to be announced.**

It is now 16 years since the publication of Mary Kehoe's history of the Melbourne

Benevolent Asylum. This was an important milestone for the Hotham History Project since it was our first, and in terms of sales, one of our most popular publications. In this talk Mary will outline the history of North and West Melbourne's premier building from its opening in 1851 to its demolition in 1911.



Photograph of Victoria Street ca. 1880 looking west along Victoria Street towards the Melbourne Benevolent Asylum in the distance.

### **Walk and Talk – Saturday 22 November 2014.**

This event will combine a walk in North & West Melbourne with contributions from former pupils of King St State School from the 1940s to the 1960s. Where did they live? Is their house still there? Why did they leave the area? This event will offer a glimpse of a time now past and explore the richness of memories of childhood and growing up in our fascinating area.



King Street State School building in Eades Place, West Melbourne.

### **Queen Victoria Market Precinct Renewal**

In October 2013 the City of Melbourne announced its intention to renew the Queen Victoria Market. The aim of the renewal is *“to preserve the Market’s heritage and authentic atmosphere, while allowing the market precinct to evolve to meet contemporary needs of traders, shoppers and the growing city”*.

A three-phase community consultation is now in progress with the final phase due later this year. An important historical question is “how do we acknowledge the site’s history as Melbourne’s first burial ground (the current car park) within the renewal Master Plan?” Members are encouraged to participate in the consultation process to ensure that this issue is fully addressed.

### **Book Sales**

Copies of all our publications including our latest, ‘Moving Around’ by Rae Nicholls and Lorna Hannan are still available. Details of how you can get a copy are on our web site at:

[www.hothamhistory.org.au](http://www.hothamhistory.org.au).

Alternatively contact Mary Kehoe at: [info@hothamhistory.org.au](mailto:info@hothamhistory.org.au)

### **Two Enjoyable Events**

**Saturday 3 May:**  
**A Journey of Memories** was a wonderful glimpse into the richness of life, family and childhood friends in one

half of a block of North Melbourne from the 1930s to 1960s as remembered by Bill Liddy, Ken Dean & Jock O’Brien, with support from Lorna and Bill Hannan and Rae Nicholls. Well over 30 people were in attendance and despite the downpour that soaked us all at the end of the day and sent us scurrying to a local hotel, the walk offered incredible memories and anecdotes of a treasured time now gone.

### **Sunday 15 June:**

**A Walk along the Maribyrnong River** was also well attended as we visited the Essendon Incinerator Gallery. Curator, Richard Ennis discussed the history of this extraordinary 1929 industrial building and its architect, Walter Burley Griffin. It was built to burn the refuse of the local area and the ash was spread nearby to build up the park and playing fields close to the river. It is now an Art Gallery and cultural facility of the City of Moonee Valley and well worth a visit. We then went to The Angler’s Tavern a little further down the river for a great lunch, followed by an amble along the riverside to another former industrial site, converted into Pipemaker’s Park.

**We look forward to seeing you at the AGM or at the other activities listed above.**