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VOL 54, NO 52

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Thursday, May 29, 1975

# COUNCILS NEW PLAN 'OLD HAT'

Leichhardt Council proposals to develop high rise flats in Balmain are 25 years behind the times, architect Mr David Chesterman told a public meeting on Monday night.

"Large scale flat development will destroy the area as we know it," he said.

Mr Chesterman is a member of the resident group Leichhardt Planning Forum, which joined with the Balmain Association to discuss town planning and development in Balmain and Rozelle at the meeting.

More than 80 people at the Balmain Town Hall gave overwhelming support to the 1971-74 Outline Plan formulated under the previous council and stringently altered by the present council.

The move is likely to

## Architect tells public meeting

trigger off more dissent between council and those residents opposing present development ideas in the altered outline plan.

"If we are to have change in the area, it should not be too drastic or too fast," Mr Chesterman said.

"Balmain and Rozelle get their character from a harmonious scale, their

many historic buildings, views and industrials, some of which are good neighbours, others which have undesirable side effects — but all of which provide employment for residents".

### Threatened

Mr Chesterman said the things residents liked about Balmain were threatened by large scale flat development.

"At the same time this development will not bring the benefits that people sometimes believe they will," he said.

"The population will not be increased unless Balmain becomes another Kirribilli or Randwick.

"The Council's rate income will not go up, because a block of flats only pays the same rates as the house next door.

"And all ratepayers will be saddled with extra costs to pay for extra parks, road widening and similar works."

Mr Chesterman said council seemed to be seeking more discretion to permit high rise development in many parts of the municipality and to be less demanding on developers in providing open space and setback buildings.

### Out of date

"Its report to the Planning and Environment Commission on the Outline Plan also appears to relax industrial nuisance standards and to remove council's commitments to examine the areas' problems and to act to resolve them," he said.

"The council, it seems, is still thinking along lines that are 25 years out of date — that redevelopment is a good thing and should be encouraged."



A mother desperately worried about her son — theme of the next Balmain Theatre Group production "Ghosts". Jo Saleh (Mrs Alving) and Ross McMillan (Oswald Alving) at one of the numerous rehearsals. The Link's preview of this outstanding Ibsen play is on Page 4.

*The rigors  
of rehearsal*

# PM, bears beat Mort St gates curfew

Balmain figured in a minor international incident last week which featured the Prime Minister Mr Gough Whitlam.

The crisis was over several bears brought from Asia for this week's Trade Fair in Melbourne.

But, after arriving at the Australian National Line terminal in Balmain early in the week, there they stayed.

An urgent appeal was made by Prime Minister Whitlam, to the Leichhardt Mayor, Alderman Les Rodwell, seeking special dispensation on the closing of the street gates surrounding the terminal.

The bears had been held on board ship for three days and had to be exercised each day.

But they could not be removed from the terminal because of numerous delays.

On Thursday, when it became apparent that unless the bears and other cargo were not moved from Mort Bay they would not get to

Melbourne in time, Mr Whitlam made his move with his call to Alderman Rodwell.

It came through at 6.40pm — 40 minutes before the gates were to have been locked for the night.

Alderman Rodwell granted permission — understanding they would be locked about an hour late. However, the last truck trundles along

Mort Street about 9.20pm.

The permission meant that the bears and the other cargo were in Melbourne on Friday, in time for Mr Whitlam's official opening on Saturday.

Any delay on Thursday would have kept them out of Melbourne until Sunday.

"I was on my way out to a regional meeting

when the message came," Alderman Rodwell said this week.

"It was put to me that the cargo had to get through that night or it would not arrive in time.

"I was told the gates would need only be kept open an extra hour, so I authorised this."

Residents in Mort Street told The Link that trucks continued to roll along the street until 9.20pm — almost two hours after the official closing time.

Several rang the By-Laws Inspector, Mr A. R. Ward, about late trucks, when they were informed of the late decision because of the international flavour of the request and of Mr Whitlam's personal interest.

## Noise symposium

A senior member of Leichhardt Council staff will attend a special symposium on noise measurement and assessment at the University of NSW next month.

He is Mr A. Geoghegan, the supervising health and building inspector.

The symposium will place particular emphasis upon building codes and Mr Geoghegan will ultimately submit a report to council.

## DEGEN SAYS BUS-FERRY TRIAL NEEDED

The State Government should establish a combined bus-ferry ticket system for a service feeding Elliott Street wharf Mr Roger Degen the member for Balmain said this week.

"Let's see some initiative," he said. "The State Government can re-introduce rail services. Why can't it restore ferry services."

Mr Degen said the potential existed at Elliott Street worthy of a three month trial.

"All that is necessary is to extend the 440 bus down to the wharf," he said. "The bus terminates at Merton Street now.

"With a restored ferry service and a combined ticket system, the Government can find out public reaction instead of talking about it.

"There are many pensioners living in flats along Elliott Street near the wharf.

"There is also a hill problem, so most of them could not easily walk up and down to the wharf for a ferry.

"But with a bus to take them down and back again on return, these pensioners could gain the advantage of a ferry service, patronise it, and escape some of the problems of road traffic."

Mr Degen said a combined ticket system would mean many other people could take advantage of the bus terminating at the wharf.

"By eliminating the need for the uphill climb, the Government can get patronage for a ferry service," he said.

"We need government innovation. There are wharves around Balmain and Rozelle which are not being used. I have fought to have services retained for years now."

Mr Degen said it had never been necessary for the Government to wait until last December, when the road, rail and water transport systems were brought under one body, the Public Transport Commission, to consider zone fare schemes.

But he said now that the new Minister for Transport, Mr Wal Fife, saw such possibilities, it opened the way for innovation, and trials of new services, such as one for Elliott Street.

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Sat. 9am

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# Women's committee urged for Leichhardt

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Plans are being made to establish a women's citizens committee in Leichhardt Municipality.

Leichhardt Council's community social worker, Mrs Marjorie Bull is working with the Women's Electoral Lobby on the proposed committee.

Mrs Bull feels that such a citizens' committee could mean grants from the Australian Government as a result of the committee's work. She told The Link this week she felt aid could be given in such areas as help for aged parents, for aged people without relatives, for migrant and working women and for

"women's issues in general."

She has already informed council she believes such a committee, sponsored by council, could result in appreciable gains for the community and will make a full report shortly.

Council has deferred a specific request from WEL about the setting up such a committee until Mrs Bull can obtain further information.

Before council last week was a letter from Mrs Helen Downes, spokeswoman for the Sydney electorate WEL.

The letter requested that, on behalf of local women, council consider "investigating our social needs during International Women's Year".

## Majority

Mrs Downes said: "We are sure you (council) will agree that, since local government is community government, what is good for women

is good for the community as a whole.

"After all, women form 51 per cent of any community and they are frequently responsible for meeting the social needs of children in their community.

"Yet their own needs are often scarcely considered".

Mrs Downes said councils had power to establish and finance citizens' committees.

"As Leichhardt Council's contribution to International Women's Year we request that council establish a women's needs committee, open to all women in the community who wish to participate.

"This committee would, with the assistance of the community social worker, attempt to find out what local women need. It would work to establish

social facilities such as community health centres, migrant women's groups, health education programs and family planning and child care centres.

"Overall, it would work to create a greater sense of involvement and belonging among the women of this community."

Mrs Bull, in a preliminary report to council, said present community work trends "all indicate that we are being urged to work out ways of improving human life chances for all people and to enrich the quality of life within our community.

"It is an exciting and enormously complex task, and one on which no single approach is adequate."

She said council acceptance of the proposal would be "Municipal recognition of the indispensable value of women's co-operation, opinions and energy."

"Their work could well result in the calling down of Australian Government grants of money for specific and needed development in the Municipality," she said.

## CHURCH NOTICES

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9.30am Family Service  
7.30pm Evensong

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**ROZELLE**  
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82-0531, 82-0533

82-0532 A.H.

Pastor Medway  
82-5660 A.H.

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9.30am Morning Prayer  
9.00am Sunday School  
7.15pm Evening Prayer

Rector: Rev. H. Voss

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## NEW HOME LOANS GUIDE

Local people thinking of subscribing to a mutual home loan fund can benefit from a booklet now available from the NSW Consumers Affairs Bureau.

The Minister for Consumer Affairs, Mr Hewitt, said this week he

had authorised the guide to explain "in simple language the advantages and disadvantages of subscribing to such funds."

The booklets can be obtained from the Bureau at 174 Phillip Street Sydney.

## Water polo on again

Balmain's winter water polo season begins on Sunday, the first day of winter and all matches will be played at the Sydney University Pool. First match will be the thirds, who will play Te Hawks at 8pm.

The women's team will

meet Cronulla on Tuesday, at 7.45pm.

First division will begin the season with a match against Universities on Wednesday, at 7.45pm and the seconds will start on Tuesday week, with a match against Drummoyne.

## Scouts annual meeting

The annual meeting of the Central-West Metropolitan Area Scouts will be held at Drummoyne Council Civic Hall on Wednesday, at 8pm.

Former scouts and all interested members of the public are invited to attend.

Scouting numbers in the Balmain and nearby areas have increased in recent years, and girls are now able to join the upper age sections.

Girls between 18 and 24 years can now learn to climb mountains, fly aeroplanes and engage in other activities formerly the province of boy scouts.

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**ADAM, Terrance Clive** (Terry). Mrs J. Adams of Narrabeen (formerly of Balmain) and Mrs Linda Piery would like to thank all relatives and friends for their kind thoughts and expressions of sympathy extended to us at the time of our sad bereavement. Please accept this as our personal thanks as many addressees are unknown.

**PAINT.** Discount House, 160 New Canterbury Road, Petersham (opposite Foodland). All types paint, save 40% PVA, Plastic \$2.28 Gloss \$2.95 gallon. Lowest prices in Sydney. Phone 56-2315.

**VACUUM** cleaner, mechanic has number of Hoover & Electrolux cleaners and polishers, guaranteed, from \$18. Call at 75 Lyons Road, Drummoyne or phone 83-9276.

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A vacancy exists at Broughton Hall Psychiatric Clinic, cnr. Church and Glover Streets, Leichhardt.

Intermediate Certificate or equivalent qualification desirable.

General office duties with some typing (30wpm).

Commencing salary according to qualifications and experience.

Hours of duty — 9.00am to 5.00pm, Monday to Friday.

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Apply Manager or phone 82-0266 (Mrs Evans) for further particulars.



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## LINK WITH LEAGUE

Balmain coach Paul Broughton summed up his Tigers' 23-8 blitz of Penrith last week in one word — "concentration".

This week the Tigers face a much harder game against Canterbury and the two words "Leichhardt Oval" could prove the winning formula.

Broughton, who has the best coaching record of anyone in top grade League, believes his team could be the surprise of the second round.

The Tigers play five of their next six games at Leichhardt Oval where so far they have played only three times for wins against Parramatta and Cronulla.

### One loss

Only St George have beaten the Tigers at home.

Broughton has been trying to fire up the old Tiger spirit, but has missed the help of home ground crowds in this first round.

Balmain selectors, Broughton, Jack Fifield and Terry Parker won't name Sunday's team until tonight because of the Tigers' Amco Cup game last night.

They would probably be happy to send out the same team as last night's.

This, minus prop Dennis Manteit, and winger Trevor Forwood was the side which won so well against Penrith.

## Tigers home and hungry for an upset



Manteit said at training on Tuesday night that he would probably be right for Sunday, but Forwood will be out.

But Keith Cook could keep Manteit out as he had a blinder against Penrith in reserve grade.

A pleasing feature of Sunday's win was hooker Peter Boulton's good form.

He outhooked English star Mick Stephenson in



the first half before retiring hurt.

Canterbury should have been well beaten by Newtown last week and will be without at least two of their best on Sunday.

Captain and half Tim Pickup and winger Chris Anderson will be playing for Australia against New Zealand in Brisbane. — BILL COLHOUN.

## BENDALL'S THREE OUT OF FIVE

### Bennetts Awards

Balmain Under 23 League star Dennis Bendall won his third major award in five games in Bennetts' Electrical Centre's contest against Penrith on Sunday.

Bendall's three pointer gave him an amazing 12 points from a possible 15 in the last five matches.

He is now a clear leader in the race for Bennetts' under 23 prize of a Hoover portable vacuum cleaner worth \$134.

Sunday's games also provided extra points to

Keith Outten, the first grade contest leader and Keith Cook, setting the pace in reserves.

Outten gained his first point in four matches to push him to 13 and a whopping seven point lead for Bennetts' prize of a \$550 Metters-Westinghouse 340 litre (12 cu ft) refrigerator.

## Junior Sides' Mixed Success

Balmain's junior Rugby League Cups teams met with mixed success in their third round matches against St. George at Leichhardt Oval on Saturday.

The S. G. Ball team went down to St. George 15-10 and so lost all chance of making the semi-finals.

Loose handling was the main factor in the Tigers' loss with the side squandering possession when in scoring positions.

Mike Raymond stood out for the Tigers with Wayne Pearce, Steve Jeffery, Mark Champley, John Brady and Steve Kerr all having solid games.

St. George 15 (A. Thomson, A. Cocking, C. Shaw, N. Dent tries, A. Cocking goal, N. Dent F/goal) def Balmain 10 (M. Raymond, B. McFadden tries, P. Wares 2 goals).

Balmain scored a narrow

12-11 win against St. George in the Jersey Flegg Game. There are many good players in the side capable of lifting their game to greater heights than was shown in this match.

Newcomers to the side Tony Leonard and Bruce Cowled had good games as did skipper Bill Dance, Wayne Wigham, Steve Frewin and Gary Speares.

This side, if they make the semis, will be very hard to best. Balmain 12 (W. Wigham 2 tries, S. Frewin 2 G, F Rymer Miles goals) def St. George 11 (R. Lawrey 2, J. Donaldson tries, G. Rymer goal).

RAY DUNN

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### BIRCHGROVE OVAL

E Grade: Holy Cross v Balmain Police Boys, 11.30am.

D Grade: Leichhardt Wanderers v Dundas Saints, 12.30pm.

B Grade: Garry Owen v Balmain Police Boys, 1.30pm.

### BLACKMORE PARK

E Grade: Birchgrove v Denistone, 12 noon.

D Res Grade: Birchgrove v Ryde District, 1pm.

D Grade: Balmain Police Boys v Ryde, 2pm.

C Grade: Balmain Police Boys v Balmain RSL, 3pm.

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