

The Fitzroy History Society Inc. Newsletter

February 2003

Nicholson Street history in the era 1850-1880

Two current items of local historical research are Osborne House and Royal Terrace in Nicholson Street near Gertrude Street, particularly for the period 1850 to 1880.

Both are well described in *Fitzroy, Melbourne's First Suburb*, and both are classified by the National Trust and Heritage Victoria.

John Moon Bryant built Royal Terrace in 1854. His son, John Moon Bryant junior, died in 1955 and bequeathed the terrace to the Salvation Army who then used it for 25 years in association with their Training Centre in Victoria Parade.

The original central section of Osborne House was the town house of squatter John Macpherson. His daughter and son-in-law Robert Smith lived there (1877-81). Their only daughter, Helen Macpherson Schutt (nee Smith), has become a major benefactress to the people of Victoria with a current annual distribution of \$2 million.

Come along on 5th March, as we share some more of the newly emerging history on these landmarks of Fitzroy

Edinburgh Gardens History

The City of Yarra is arranging for the preparation of a conservation management plan for the Edinburgh Gardens.

June Senyard is our FHS representative for the work on this plan.

Come to the City of Yarra Community Day on 16 February, and support our historic walks there. It's a chance to pay your annual subscription. Share any knowledge you have on the history of the gardens.

The 2002 Annual Dinner

Thirty four members and guests celebrated 21 years of the Fitzroy History Society at the Old Colonial Inn on 6 December.

We welcomed Trevor Hart, our first convenor, and Rosemary Kiss, an active early member.

Trevor reminded us of Harold Mackrell, when Mayor of Fitzroy at the time, giving great support to the Fitzroy History Society in its early formative era.

Subscriptions for 2003

Our very modest annual subscription of \$5 per person is renewable each calendar year. Some members have paid for a year or two into the future. Other members are a year or two in arrears. Please let us know if you wish to terminate your membership.

Our membership secretary, John Senyard has a record of each member's financial status, and this information is now shown as the first line on your address label. It shows the year to which your subscription is fully paid up.

New members

We welcome new local members Michael O'Brien, and Min and Rose Chong.

A date for your diary

On Sunday morning, 6 April, we will visit a local supplier, since the 1930s, of shop fittings and shop-fronts

Your Committee for 2002-2003

Convenor: Annabel Barbara 9419 6186
Treasurer: Harold Mackrell
Secretary Mike Moore 9416 1446
& Editor: m.moore@bigpond.com

Fitzroy History Society

Membership Renewal / Membership Application

Name(s)

.....

Telephone

.....

Address

.....

E-mail

.....

Subscription
\$5 per person, per year

Cash Cheque

Comments, Feedback, Suggestions for future activities



Sunday, 16 February, 11 am - 6 pm

2003 YARRA COMMUNITY DAY in the Edinburgh Gardens

Many local community organisations are participating in the City of Yarra's Community Day.

Visit our stall, for information on membership and activities of the Fitzroy History Society.

Join our free guided walks, leaving from the Fitzroy History Society stall.

12 noon – take a look back at great sporting moments with sports historian Dr June Senyard

2 pm – explore the route of the old inner circle railway line with local architect Terence Nott

Any inquiries or offers of help to staff our stall, please contact Heather on 9486 9643

Wednesday, 5 March

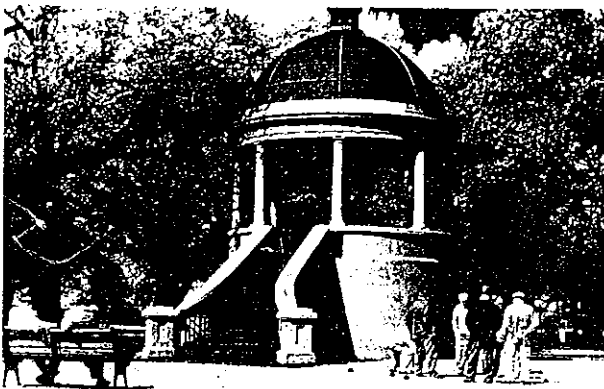
A twilight evening on the history of Osborne House and Royal Terrace.

5.30pm hear some of the emerging new history (at a CBD location near Spring St)

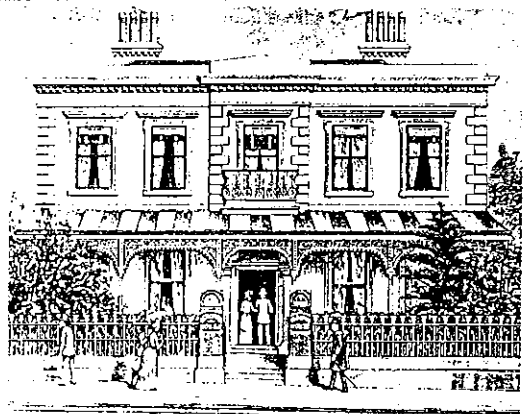
7.00pm an evening stroll out along Nicholson Street (from the gardens opposite ICI)

7.30pm meal at the Pumphouse Hotel (former 1850s St Andrews Hotel)

Bookings are essential before 28 February, for the 5.30 and 7.30 components
to Mike Moore on 9416 1446 or e-mail to m.moore@bigpond.com



Edinburgh Gardens rotunda of 1925



Osborne House, before additions of 1880s