

FRIENDS OF THE OLD GOVERNMENT HOUSE

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NEWSLETTER NO. 1

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Dear Friends,

This is our first official Newsletter, after a number of single letters over the past two and a half years. Perhaps its humble beginning might grow into a publication of much worth and interest to many people.
Yours sincerely,

Ev Campbell Dene Cordes
13/9/1985 Joint Editors

Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday, 8th October, 1985, at 7.45 p.m. in the Belair Information Centre. We hope you will all be there because there will be several attractions:-
Victorian Floral Art

Betty Byrne will be our Guest Speaker, with a demonstration on Victorian Floral Art. Betty is an authority on this subject, has lectured extensively and is the author of a book entitled "Flower Arrangements for Beginners" which was a best seller in its field.

Because of the cost of old world flowers, we will make a \$2.00 charge, per person, to cover such purchases by Betty. This will entitle one of us to win one of Betty's Victorian arrangements, and any excess can start off our new bank account.

Hope to see you there. Do bring a plate of supper as usual.

Visit by Acting Director

Also on that evening, Nicholas Newland will come along as a special visitor. He wishes to briefly address our group and we are delighted to have him attend.

Visit by Belair Ranger-in-Charge

John Berggy will come along and be with us too, this being a good chance for John to meet our group again. He was at the Christmas wind-up in 1984.

THE RECENT UNION BAN ON VOLUNTEERS

We apologise to everybody who has been inconvenienced by the ban which operated for four weeks. It was lifted, for our group, on 6th September. Please don't-feel that everybody sat back and let it go on. There was a lot of effort put in by us, by the Service, and by Belair Park, to sort out the situation and we are grateful to you all for your usual patience and goodwill.

One thing we can say is that the ban was not any reflection on the Friends; it was purely an Industrial dispute between the Public Service Board and the Federated Miscellaneous Workers' Union.

Banning volunteers was simply a way of highlighting the problem, not a question of our acceptance.

We sincerely appreciate you all for your support, and we believe that strength and unity now are vital because the ban is lifted and we must go ahead from here.

HISTORIC WEEKEND TRIP

The Social Committee has arranged for a weekend in the mid-north of the State on 14th and 15th September. A historic tour of the Burra district has been arranged for the Saturday afternoon, followed by dinner at the Old Jinkers Restaurant. That night we will stay in the Paxton Cottages. Next morning off to Mintaro for morning tea, inspection of Robertsons Museum, and luncheon, with the weekend concluding with a visit to Martindale Hall at Clare. With some of our families, there will be about forty of us altogether, so we anticipate a most enjoyable weekend.

WELCOME HOME NIGHT

Vice President, Peter Blackburn and his wife, Barbara, invited some friends to their home on 10th August for a welcome home to Dianne and Dene Cordes after four months abroad. A number of items brought back by them were displayed and discussed. A pooled supper was much enjoyed. Special thanks to Peter and Barb for this gesture.

NEW LIFE STYLES

Our best wishes to Jim Geyer in his new venture. Jim, with daughter Kathy and her husband Graham, are the new proprietors of the Nepean Bay Caravan Park, three miles out from Kingscote in Kangaroo Island. Ellen will continue in her position with the Department of Environment and Planning and we hear that there is to be lots of commuting done.

Lorraine Barrett retired from the Department of Lands at the end of June. And Colin Byrne retired at about the same time. We wish them both many years of health and happiness.

PENDING VISIT TO GOVERNMENT HOUSE

On 14th November at 11.15 a.m. the Friends of the Old Government House will be officially received by His Excellency, Sir Donald Dunstan, Governor of South Australia, and Mrs. Dunstan. Please justify this privilege by being there, and meeting at the front gates. North Terrace, at 11.00 a.m. We will be shown through the

grounds by the Friends of the Botanic Gardens and will then go indoors for reception by His Excellency and for refreshments. This is indeed an honour for our Friends and we urge everyone to be present.

OUR YOUNG FRIENDS

One of the reasons for our success is our complete range of ages of members, and both female and male Friends. Our young members include Helen and Stephen Blackburn, Lorena Cordes and Michael Voy. Let us all make them feel very welcome.

OONGRATULATIONS TO WENDY

Wendy Lawrence has been appointed as the Curator at Old Government House, As she is known by us all, and has been to all of our meetings, we congratulate her and wish her every success.

OTHER FRIENDS GROUPS

Fort Glanville Historical Association; Friends of Ferguson Park; Friends of Butcher's Gap; Friends of Lincoln National Park; Friends of the Offshore Islands Group.

VISIT TO BOTANIC GARDENS FRIENDS

On 5th September, Ev Campbell and Dene Cordes paid a visit to the Botanic Gardens where we held a delightful discussion with Christine Steele-Scott and Anna Fox. They told us much about their Friends group which is only seven years old and has been a remarkable success. There is excellent rapport with the paid staff. The Friends get about ninety at each meeting and have hundreds of subscriber members. They do free guided Garden Tours and have a wonderful social programme (includes interstate and overseas trips). Meetings are always full of interest. Subs are charged and this brings in money from many people who are interested. They have a good Newsletter, and lots of small hints for successful activities were handed to us.

FRIENDS OF THE ART GALLERY

We also visited two members of this group earlier this year and feel that we gained a lot of ideas then. If this helps us to be better informed and more professional, at the same time preserving that marvellous friendship and informality which our group enjoys, then both of these familiarisation visits have been worthwhile.

SOCIAL SUB-COMMITTEE

This group met on 7th August and planned our future events. Thanks to Hugh Campbell, the leader of the group, also to his Committee members - Peg Ligertwood, Betty Cane, Mary and Laurie Castanelli, Barbara Blackburn and Betty Byrne.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CO-OPERATION

So that the mechanics of our group work smoothly, we would be grateful if our Friends could endeavour to be on time at 12.30 p.m. on Sundays when rostered. If you cannot manage this, maybe you could let the staff know so that the Servants Quarters can be covered until you arrive. Thank you.

Also, please keep yourselves well aware when your rostered duty day is. Our capable Roster Convenor, Jean Kahlbaum, has an emergency roster group who would come in at short notice to cover emergencies, but it is better if everyone keeps well aware of their turn on duty. Thank you again for this.

ROSTER CONVENOR'S COMMENTS

Retired nursing sister, Jean Kahlbaum, has spent her working years rostering hospital staff and enjoys this voluntary work now.

DATES TO REMEMBER

8/10/1985 - Next meeting

14/11/1985 - Visit to Government House, Adelaide Christmas Dinner - Details to be advised shortly. 20/3/1986

- Annual General Meeting

(13/9/1985)