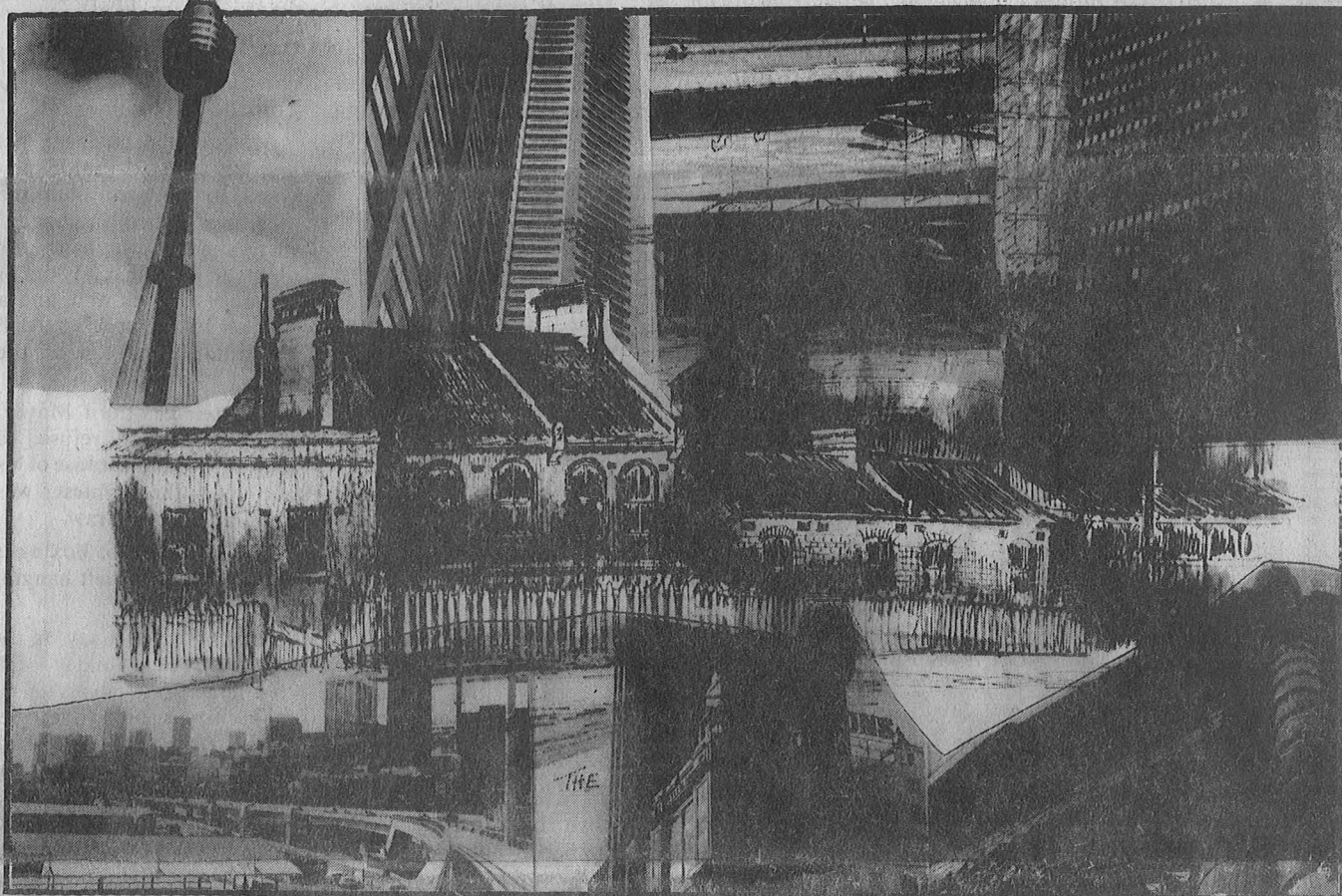




# SYDNEY, ROCKS and POINTS

Number 2, August 1984.

## HOUSES NOT HELICOPTERS



## No more Humbug! Time to get down to running the Council

THE two defeated candidates for Lord Mayor, Ald Bingham and Ald Matthews, continue with their pre-occupation of attacking Ald Sutherland.

While on occasions Ald

By  
Alderman Jack  
Munday

Sutherland has left himself open to criticism, nevertheless they are guilty, to varying degrees, of grandstanding and posturing

while claiming and counter-claiming abuses of power, instead of getting on with the job they were elected for.

Their performances are all the more deplorable in a period when the stocks of Local Government have never been lower.

Continued Page 3

SYDNEY'S historic Rocks area, part of Australia's heritage, is under threat from the Wran-Brereton developers' bulldozer destruction team.

*See Editorial Page 2.*



## WHOSE MAN IS WRAN?

**A**LTHOUGH no-one would claim that the Wran Labor Government is as repressive and corrupt as the previous Liberal Government, under the regime of Askin, there are nevertheless similarities.

In particular, quality of life and environmental issues are treated much the same. In The Rocks area Askin failed residents are unionists alike to make way for high rise development.

Now, when Wran wants to please overseas developers with his "Darling Harbour Scheme", he wants to place an enlarged Helipad in the middle of The Rocks.

He has indicated that he will not tolerate any opposition by stating that he will bulldoze the project through.

Can you imagine what would happen to that small and unique area with a hundred or more helicopters landing and taking off daily.

The noise pollution would be devastating. Also it must be remembered that the area is not large enough to cope with such a venture. Does Mr Wran really intend to bulldoze workers' homes down to accommodate wealthy "chopper users".

The Maritime Services Board, the largest landlord in the area, has allowed housing and run-down flats to remain vacant for long periods. Now we are told the board is to be restructured. (Restructure or destruction, Mr Wran?)

Another striking resemblance to the Askin regime is occurring in the Woolloomooloo-Darlinghurst area. Residents vividly recall Askin's harassment of people in the sixties and early seventies to make way for an Eastern Distributor.

People's houses were compulsorily acquired, evictions occurred and the whole area has lived for more than a decade under the threat of the bulldozer.

Laurie Brereton finally announced that the Eastern Distributor is to proceed. To try to play down opposition, he claims re-routing of the distributor will not affect as many people as was previously proposed. But the locals know better.

There is still time for Mr Wran and his Roads' Minister Brereton to show they are a Government of the people. The Lower Woolloomooloo Housing Scheme proved that it is possible for people to live in the inner City suburbs. There is still time for this Government to put people before cars and helicopters. Unless this trend is reversed right now, we might yet see confrontation again in both areas, only this time under a Labor Government.

The decision boils down to preference for big business or housing at affordable rents for inner City residents. The time is ripe for Wran and Brereton to forsake Liberal policies and implement a policy for the people.

Then we might once again believe that "Wran is our Man" and Roads' Minister Brereton also.

## "Kid Bingham" The Turramurra Tornado

**Surprise, Surprise.** The urbane, sophisticated developer's lawyer, Alderman Jeremy Bingham strongly supports the prize-fights being staged in our Sydney Town Hall.

Jack Munday's resolution called for the banning of boxing in the Town Hall on the grounds it was inhumane and damaging to the mental health of all participants.

Only recently the British Medical Association called for all boxing—both professional and Amateur—to be banned.

The B.M.A. said there was now such overwhelming evidence of the serious damage to all boxers' mental and physical health, that any society considering itself civilised shouldn't allow boxing.

Munday also pointed out that history has shown that it has been the underprivileged and working class who pummeled each other insensible in the hempen square.

In the USA boxing is dominated by blacks for example.

Bingham poo-hooed this notion, which led to a wag in the Town Hall gallery to note the number of boxers who come

from the upper-class, and christened our Turramurra Tornado "Kid" Bingham.

Most of the independents and left-wing ALP aldermen voted for the ban, but the "fighting" Liberals, none of them known to have the ability to fight their way out of a money spider's web, and a number of right-wing ALP councillors voted against the ban.

The referee, Lord Mayor, Doug Sutherland, refused to take a glove and because of his non-vote the contest was declared a 12-12 draw.

So the future of boxing in the Town Hall is left hanging on the ropes.

Having the last say on the matter, Jack Munday said, that he felt rate payers and citizens of Sydney believed that the Town Hall should be the venue for diverse cultural pursuits to uplift consciousness—all boxing did was knock it down.



The Cuban Women who visited Australia recently as the guests of the NSW Labor Women's Committee at a Sydney Town Hall reception.

Left to right: Kate Butler, President of Labor Women, Hilda Vasallo, National Women's leader, Cuba, Isabel Iomavion, Cuban member, Socialist International, Deputy Lord Mayor, Stan Ashmore-Smith (who hosted the reception) and Christine Kibble, Secretary, NSW Labor Women.



# Time to get down to (Council) business!

## From Page 1

This makes it imperative that we strive our utmost to improve our relationship with the State Government and to insist on the Sydney City Council controlling its own affairs.

The performance of both the NSW Liberal Government under Askin, and the present Labor Government leave a lot to be desired as regards their respect for our City Council.

Sir Robert Askin showed his contempt by sacking the elected council and installed three business-oriented commissioners. Later a Liberal Council sympathetic to Askin

was elected, and the developers had a field day.

**During this period Sydney was almost destroyed.**

When the Wran Government came to power, it was expected to have a better relationship with the City Council. It started well.

However, over the years things have deteriorated.

Neville Wran, with others in the Ministry, and some back-benchers, have made derogatory remarks about the Council's ability—particularly in the planning area.

It is timely to remember the high handed manner in which Askin took 53 acres of the

East Rocks out of the Council's control and created the Sydney Cove Redevelopment Authority (S.C.R.A.).

Five years ago the Wran Government commenced the same practice by acting in a similar way with the Toohey's site in Elizabeth Street. It is still vacant today.

**Circular Quay and the Treasury Building in Macquarie Street suffered the same fate, and now we have a New Darling Harbour Act which takes over 100 acres out of the Sydney City Council control.**

**Requests for conferences with the Premier and the**

**Minister for Ports and Public Works, Laurie Brereton, were ignored for two months.**

Likewise, a request for a conference with the Government to discuss the future of Regent theatre took months to eventuate.

So some frank discussion with the Government is required and the two unsuccessful aspirants for Lord Mayor should concentrate on getting the Council working smoothly.

**The new Council has considerable potential, but such potential won't be realised unless public bickering and cheap point scoring is stopped.**

## The Siege of the Motor Car

By Alderman Jack Munday

**Sydney is now one of the most polluted cities in the world. Cars and trucks, which have open slather, are the main offenders.**

Many of the more enlightened cities in Europe and Asia now limit private vehicles entering the centres of their cities. Seeing that we experience such heavy pollution levels, why should we not do the same?

The growing problem of private motor vehicles in Urban areas is a global one. Just consider these staggering figures. In 1950 there were 50 million motor vehicles. By 1980 the figure had grown to 400 million, and in 1990 there will be 550 million private

vehicles on the world's roads.

Considering that a majority of these are in Urban areas, the environmental, social and planning pressures are enormous.

Roads, and other servicing requirements such as public transport, sewerage, water, gas, electricity, etc. are extended as the car spreads the Urban area ever outwards.

The land use of Sydney is an interesting study. 40 per cent of the entire area is taken up with freeways, roads, parking stations and driveways of homes for a private car which on average is only mobile 3 per cent of its life.

So a massive injection of spending is required in the Public transport sector so as to lessen the reliance on private transport by upgrading train, buses and ferry

services. The Sydney City Council should pressurise the State Government.

Huge expenditure on freeways and roads, are not a solution as Los Angeles clearly demonstrates. For 40 years "God Car" and freeways dominated Los Angeles, now there is a \$3 billion dollars expenditure on commencing a new public transport system there.

So saturation of cars on our roads will continue until public transport is given a higher priority.

The car lobby is very strong and has considerable influence and connections with the NSW Government.

The Sydney City Council's Planning Department is to be commended for its work on

the proposed Pitt St Mall. Unfortunately, the work on the Queen Victoria Building is being used as an excuse as to why the Pitt St. Mall project is to be delayed.

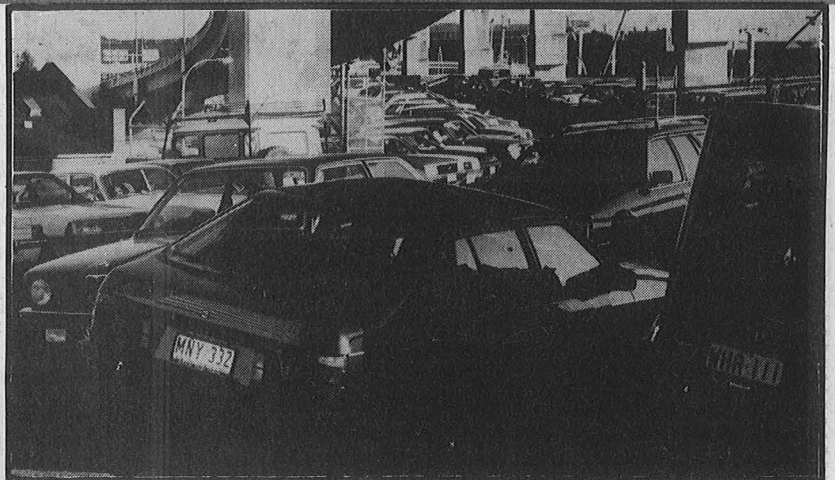
The Council's road closure programme is to be commended, but the real answer is less private motor-vehicle use and a vast improvement in public transport.

I stand for phasing the car out of the City's Centre and for the introduction of light-rail trams through Sydney's narrow streets.

In this way hundreds of thousands of people can be moved in a non-polluting way.

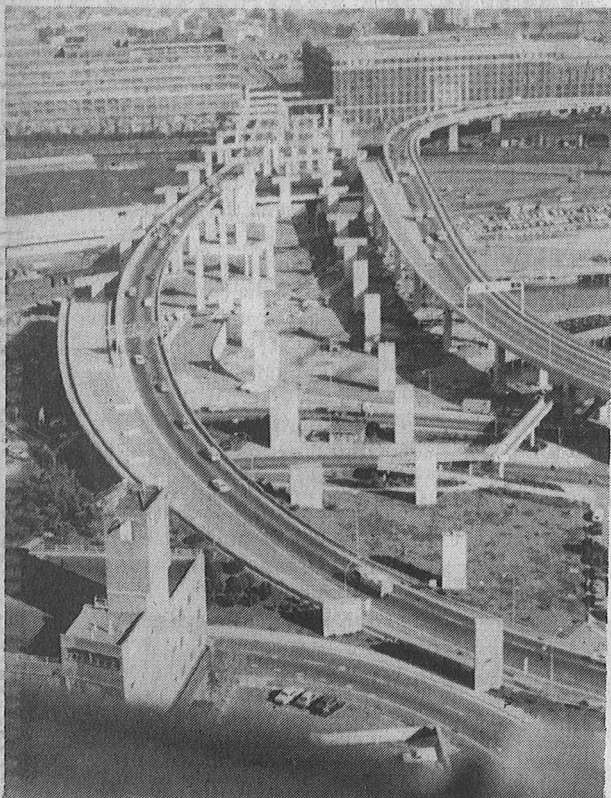
This is essential as is the building of more ferries to take advantage of the advantages of Sydney's harbour and waterways.

**Sydney, Rocks and Points—3**





## FREEWAYS TO NOWHERE!



Freeways have choked American cities like Los Angeles almost to death.

Do we have to slavishly follow the 'American Way' in Darlo? (See editorial page 2).

Picture is the Western Distributor

## SYDNEY, ROCKS & POINTS

(Covering the Central Business District, The Rocks, Millers Point and Dawes Point).

## SPONSORSHIP

I wish to become a SPONSOR of the newspaper Sydney, Rocks and Points.

I enclose \$20 ☐ \$10 ☐ as my 1984 contribution

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CONTRIBUTIONS SHOULD BE SENT TO:

Alderman Jack MUNDEY,  
Town Hall,  
SYDNEY 2000.

4—Sydney, Rocks and Points

# Why Not Sell A Few Bombs?

By Frank Ryan

**M**ILLIONS of people all over the world are beginning to say no to the nuclear madness which threatens life on earth. As the nuclear countries stockpile more guns and planes and bombs, many people are coming to see a link between the need for disarmament and the survival of our planet.

There are now enough submarines, missiles and planes to overkill the world 200 - 300 times. These assets are not cheap.

The Churches in Australia group have turned up some interesting figures. One of the cheaper items on the war budget is the training of one soldier; it would pay for the education of 80 children.

You may also wonder at the cost of one Trident nuclear submarine. According to the Churches in Australia, one sub could provide vaccine protection for every child on earth ... saving millions of lives each year.

Yet so far we've been talking small change; hiccups on the nuclear balance sheet.

Take an M.X. Missile System for example. Money spent on one M.X. missile package would be enough to provide all the food, water, education, health and housing for every human being on earth for three and half years. In the face of this fact two million Australians live in poverty, thousands in developing countries die of starvation each week, kids across Melbourne sleep in stairwells and Brotherhood bins every night ... so it goes on. In the words of one placard at this year's disarmament rally ... "it will be a great day when our schools and hospitals get all the money they need and the air force has to run a cake stall to buy their jet bombers."

The cost of nuclear weapons is insane. Ordinary people like us have to say no. It must be done.

*On behalf of Northcote  
People for Nuclear  
Disarmament.*

*Republished from Northern News, Melbourne, Vic.*



ON the anniversary of the dropping of an atom bomb on Hiroshima, Monday, August 6, a commemoration service was held at 8.15am in Sydney Square. Among those present were: (from left) Amanda Crompton (actress), Hayes Gordon (actor/director), Mr. Tamaka (Japanese Consul-General), Ald. Sutherland (Lord Mayor), Ald. Ashmore-Smith (Deputy Lord Mayor), David Williamson (playwright), Rev. Dorothy McMahon (Uniting Church).

## HOW TO CONTACT ALDERMAN MUNDEY

Alderman Jack is available at his Town Hall Office, Level 16, Town Hall House, Kent St, City, Every week day between 9am and 5pm.

Phone: 20263 ext 9056

He is available also at 73 Lower Fort St, every second and fourth Wednesday of the month between 9am and 12 noon. The latter service is to meet the needs of elderly and disadvantaged people.



\*\*\*\*\*

THIS is our second issue of *Sydney, Rocks and Points* and the second time we have featured Sydney's oldest pub, the only difference being that they are two different pubs. The last one was the Hero of Waterloo. This one is the Lord Nelson, both are of course in the Rocks. You tell us which one is the oldest!

\*\*\*\*\*



## You are welcome at the Lord Nelson

**M**INE Host of the historic "Rocks Pub" the Lord Nelson—Darrell Thorn, and Ms Judith Bennett (above), who says she has worked in many hotels in Sydney, now demolished to make way for high rise

Judith believes the old pubs and other historic buildings in the Rocks, must and will be saved.

Darrell Thorn agrees and sees more people coming back to the Rocks for drinks, meals and entertainment.

"The centre of the City is now a colourless and dull place by comparison with the Rocks," he said.

"I have lived in San Francisco for many years. As an Australian I have always wanted to return. I am pleased I am back—and in the Rocks "

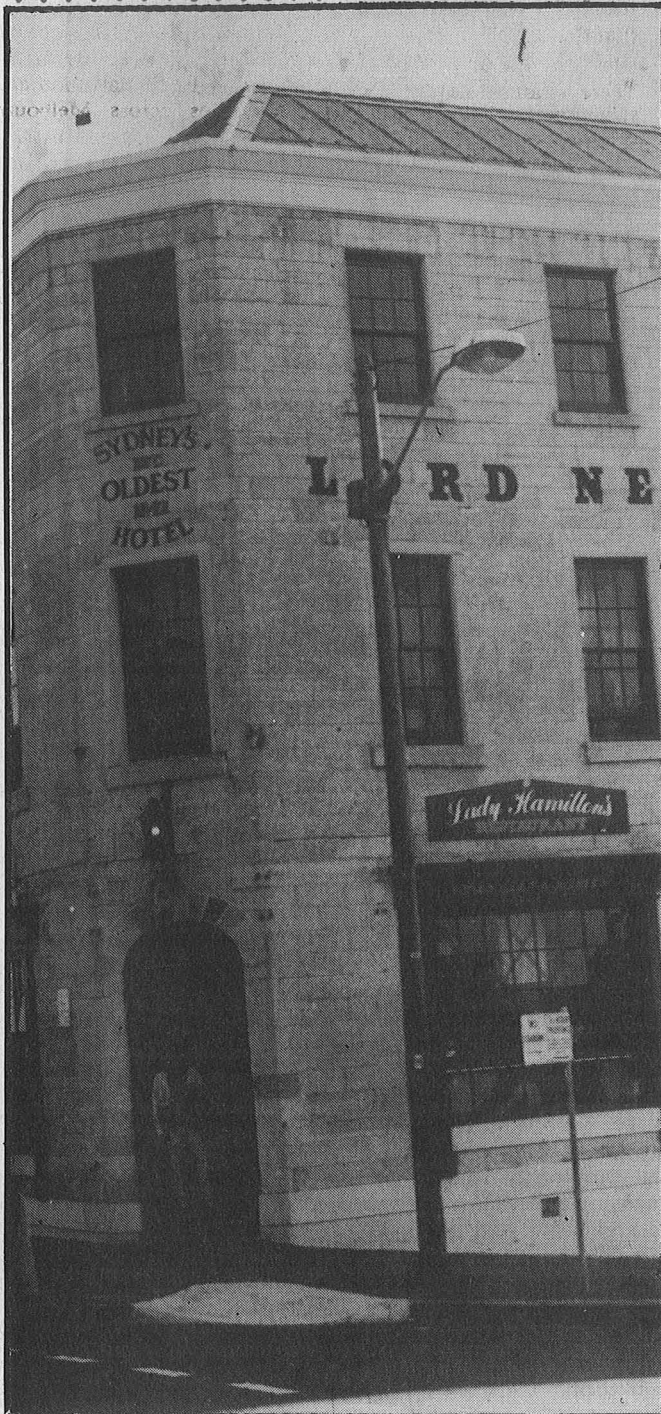
The Lord Nelson Hotel is at 19 Kent Street, Miller's Point.

It is open seven days a week for bistro lunch from 11am to 11pm, and Sundays from 12 noon to 12pm.

The Lady Hamilton Restaurant in the hotel is open from Thursday to Saturday for lunch and dinner. *Bookings are advisable.* Background music is soft with some Country and Western.

### SYDNEY, ROCKS and POINTS

Please address all  
correspondence to:-  
Ald Jack Munday,  
Town Hall,  
SYDNEY 2000





## SYDNEY ON A SATURDAY NIGHT

By Henry McCarthy

# Where have all the hotels gone?

**On a very cold Saturday night a couple of weeks ago four of us came to town to go to a jazz concert at the Opera House.**

For my wife and I, a friend and his wife, it was our first Saturday night into the city for some time.

We found a grey and desolate place, nothing like the bright and lively town we remembered a relatively short time ago.

Our plan for a pleasant night out, was to have a few drinks before a quiet and inexpensive meal, then back to the Opera House for the concert at 8.30pm.

### CLUBS OUT

We decided that clubs were out, because we figured that it would be 6.30 to 7pm, before the dining rooms opened and we didn't want a long expensive meal and possibly a late arrival at the concert.

Arriving at the Quay by ferry about 6pm we decided to go to the King George Tavern, on the first floor of American Express building on the corner of King and George Streets. We figured it would be easy from there to catch an Opera House bus in George Street.

We took a bus from the Quay to King Street. I had been in the King George Tavern a couple of times and found it a pleasant enough place, with a self-serve hot meal bar with good food and tables to eat and drink at.

But I had only been there during the day, and had been told that it was open in the evening.

We alighted from the bus to stare at a bleak and dark concrete and glass edifice, towering into the sky with the gate at the top of the stairs to the tavern chained and bolted like the entrance to a prison.

I felt guilty, after all it had been my suggestion and made some silly crack about pubs with no beer.

### PICK ONE OUT

Someone said, "Never mind, there are plenty of pubs in King Street, let's walk up a couple of blocks and pick one out."

Pick one out! We walked up the left side, almost to Queen's Square and back down the other side and found it wasn't a case of a "Pub with no Beer"—There were just no pubs!

We turned towards the Railway end of George Street, past the old Town Hall Hotel, already pulverised into rubble, behind curtains of dirty hessian flapping in the cold wind.

Trying to decide where the next pub might be, we stood in the cold, outside Waltons for a while. There were a couple we could think of, but then if we walked down there, they could be closed like the King George Tavern.

**It seems to me that in this period of demolishing pubs, publicans not only decide themselves, what they charge, but also when they will open or close.**

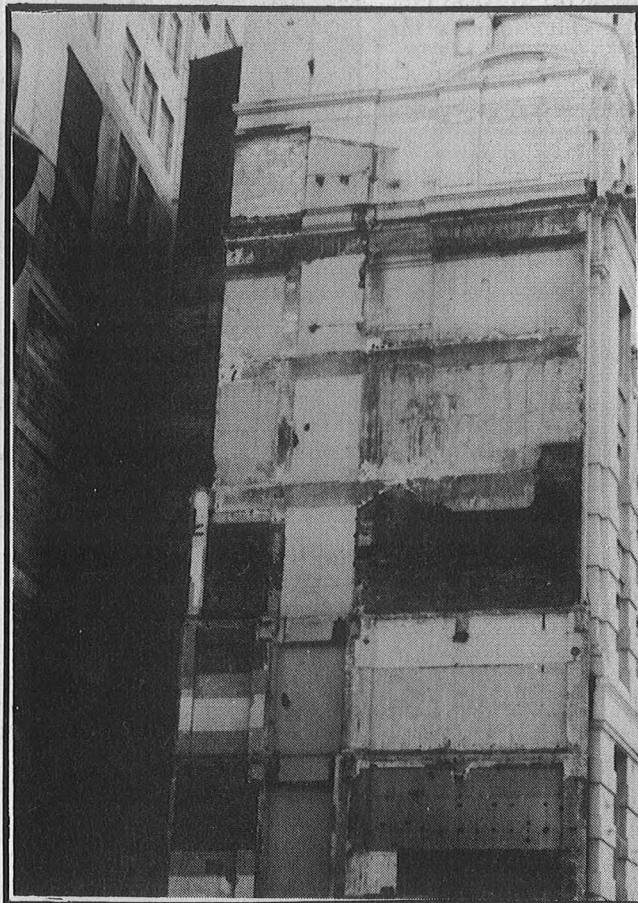
Who would believe it, not only no beer in King and main parts of George Streets on a Saturday night, but hardly any pubs either.

### TAKE A BET

When I first came to Sydney and up until the sixties and early seventies, you could win a bet if you could walk down one side of George Street from the Quay to the Railway, have one drink in each pub and not get picked up for being drunk.

If you took the walk today, you would arrive at the end of it, not drunk—but thirsty.

My neighbour, Brian, said, "Christ, it's eight o'clock, we'll have to get down to the



**All that's left of the Old Town Hall Hotel—a few dirty smudges on the wall of Walton's building.**

Opera House, we'll have a drink and something to eat when we get home."

Suddenly, I didn't care about the concert, or the meal or the beer, I had a feeling of sadness for a once beautiful and happy city that they turned into a dull and colourless place.

I thought of the times I had had in many of the freindly old pubs now gone, when one of the arguments used to be which pub had the best beer.

We even had our special pubs where mates would meet. These pubs reflected the character of the workers who drank in them.

There is no character and few workers in the concrete and glass boxes that now pass for, but will never be Sydney pubs.

As we crossed the street to catch the Opera House bus, I thought how true is the saying:

"You can't return to an old love."

Particularly true, if the old love is no longer there like the city I once knew.

**FOOTNOTE: Over 100 Sydney hotels have been demolished in recent years. Now, some of the historic old pubs in the Rocks are under threat from "Bulldozer" Brereton.**



# Children of the Rocks 72 Years ago!



■ This picture of Rocks' children in Argyle Cut was taken in 1912. We wonder if you recognise any of the "Kids"?

Cecil says:



"Solving the traffic problem is simple: Drive buses down the footpath and get more cars on the road."

## Reschs Developments Brewing

The development proposals for the old Resch's Brewery site were heatedly debated at the Planning Committee meeting recently.

Whilst some local Aldermen were thoroughly intoxicated with Tooth & Co. proposals for a commercial-residential mix, other Aldermen were concerned with what they believed to be a dangerous precedent in allowing high rise commercial development in that area well outside the Central Business District.

Originally there were to be two 18 storey office towers. After negotiations these were reduced to 14 storeys, and there will be further negotiations to try to scale down the office buildings both in height and bulk.

The policy of Council for the last decade has been to limit high rise office buildings to the Central Business District (C.B.D.). Some Alder-

men felt that departing from this practice could lead to commercial office buildings springing up all along Botany Bay.

Furthermore, the State Government's policy is for office blocks to be built near the centre of urban population growth in centres such as Campbelltown and Blacktown.

Though some compromise was achieved, Toth's were substantially successful in getting their proposal through. Toth's lobbied very hard and extensively.

The project is a vast one. There is still considerable uncertainty as to the final outcome.

A negative feature of the spirited debate was the condemnation of the Planning Department by three Aldermen. The condemnation was unjustified and unsubstantiated.

The Planning Department possesses extremely capable and dedicated people who have served the Sydney City Council well over many years.

It isn't that the planners are ultra sensitive to criticism. It is that they object to insulting and untrue statements by a couple of excited Aldermen.

The Planning Department of Sydney City Council is highly respected throughout New South Wales as possessing both ability and integrity. Though at times it is necessary to bring in Consultants, Council should avoid costing ratepayers unnecessarily by failing to use our City Planning Department wherever it is possible.

Having endorsed the Tooth proposal for redevelopment of the Reschs Brewery site in general terms, Council now has the responsibility to monitor closely each stage of the actual development.

This letter was recently published in the *Sydney Morning Herald*  
Dear Editor,

Of late there has been speculation about the future of the Sydney City Council.

For reasons unknown to me such speculation has included the possibility of the elected Council being dismissed.

The composition of the Council might not be to the every wish of either of the main two political parties, but the Council is an interesting mix which reflects our diverse, and cosmopolitan character, and reflects the voters' wish.

The 'Sutherland saga' has been dragged on for too long, and now is the time for the Council to address itself to the growing planning problems, particularly Darling Harbour.

The Sydney City Council Aldermen are unanimous that our efficient and creative Planning Department should be involved in a cooperative manner with the NSW State Government in the whole planning processes of the exciting Darling Harbour development.

Because of the heavy pollution levels of our beautiful city, it is imperative that the State Government and the Sydney City Council cooperate so as to limit private motor traffic in the Central Business District and at the same time upgrade and improve public transport.

The perceived antagonism between the State and Local Governments must be replaced by a harmonious and cooperative attitude.

As Chairman of the Sydney City Council's Planning Committee, I will be working to that end.

Jack Munday.

Sydney, Rocks and Points—7



# Sydney Town Topics



## WOT NO JACK!

**O**LD Sydney Hotel in The Rocks was opened by Premier Wran and Lord Mayor Sutherland.

Though Jack Munday was elected by the people of The Rocks and Millers Point, he wasn't invited to the opening.

Alderman Munday did considerably more to save The Rocks from developers than either of these distinguished gentlemen.

## SHREDDED TYPIST

**T**HE Sydney City Council is nothing if not innovative. One newly elected Alderman requested a typewriter upon taking office. Two months later he was told that

a typewriter was not on, but a brand new paper shredder was immediately available.

## CIVIC SERVICE

**E**X Alderman Tony Reeves now Editor of *The Guardian* an inner City newspaper recently produced a list of Doctors who support Medicare and those who don't. It must be one of the best public services produced by any newspaper this year and a boon to people in the area covered. Copies are available by ringing Tony on 560-0622.

## THE GANG OF SIX (LIBERALS)

**A**LDERMAN Les Morka recently chided Yabsley for not getting on with pushing for the Eastern Distributor. One week later at a Council Committee meeting he chided the Council for not spending \$65,000 on renovating "Gilligan's Island" at Taylor Square. Gilligan's Island just happens to be in the centre of the proposed Distributor. He also proposes

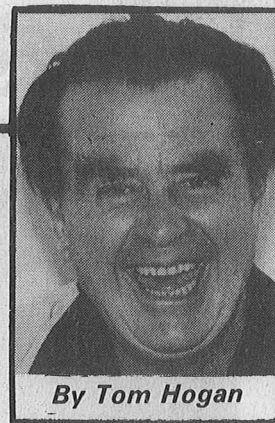
that all Australians should salute the flag of their choice every morning. Perhaps Les could salute two flags.

Ross Bonthorne of Civic and Civic has rather blotted his Liberal Party copy book. He shows distinctive signs of having an environment conscience on at least some issues.

John Love our banking boy from Westpac has divided the gallery regarding his merits. 30 per cent believe he sits and thinks; 69 per cent believe he just sits; whilst 1 per cent pointed out that in only four attempts he has been able to successfully ask a question of Council at least once.

## MARITIME ANTICS

**I**F you live in a Maritime Services house where the roof leaks or the floors have rotted, the guttering rusted or the plumbing has given up the ghost don't despair. They have given perfectly good reasons why repairs haven't been effected. Firstly they are not interested, primarily in housing and anyway the Board is being restructured whatever that means. Residents would probably be also interested in rents being restructured. Restructured downwards that is.



By Tom Hogan

## WHEN THE LIGHTS GO OUT

**W**HEN street lights went out in Lower Fort Street the County Council was notified a number of times. After a fortnight they discovered that a faulty cable was the cause. A spokesman for the County Council said that there may be some delay in rectifying the fault as they had an acute labour shortage. Who are they kidding?

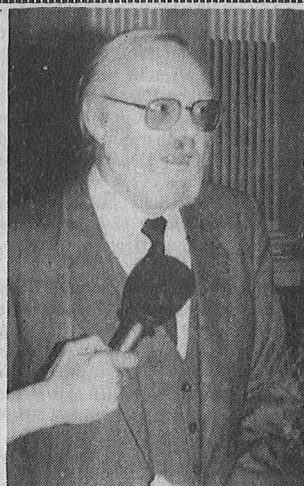
## A STANDARD OR TWO

**D**OUBLE standards are certainly alive and kicking on the City Council. When the issues of equality in employment came up on council recently Aldermen Calpis and Murphy were quite adamant that women should be relegated to the kitchen and not take men's jobs. When a committee was set up to implement equality two people quickly volunteered. You guessed it Aldermen Calpis and Murphy. Remember boys. Women do vote in the Alexandria and Macquarie Wards.

## LETTERS

**I**F you live in the City, Rocks or points area and have a problem, a grievance or point of view to improve the area or the content of the paper drop us a line. Remember all sponsors are part owners and participation is the best path to democracy.

Address all correspondence to: Alderman Jack Munday  
c/o Town Hall  
Sydney 2000



Deputy Lord Mayor, Stan Ashmore-Smith launching *Sydney, Rocks and Points* at the Town Hall, last month.

## Deputy Lord Mayor launches *Sydney, Rocks and Points*

**THE Deputy Lord Mayor, Ald Stan Ashmore-Smith, officially launched the first edition of Sydney's newest newspaper, *Sydney, Rocks and Points*, in a ceremony at the Town Hall.**

Ald Ashmore-Smith said the community would welcome another source of information about what is going on in the Council.

"We can sit here for hours and days on end making decisions," he said. "But if the subject and result of our deliberations is not disseminated to the public we serve, then we are not serving adequately."

He said *Sydney, Rocks and Points* was most welcomed as one source of providing parts of Sydney with information about the decisions of Government which affected them.

"It should encourage a greater participation by members of the public in the affairs of this Council," he said, "and that is always something to be welcomed."

A number of Rocks residents, unionists and aldermen attended the ceremony.