



THE PARKVILLE ASSOCIATION Inc.

ABN 43 252 771 188

PO Box 54, PARKVILLE VIC 3052

NEWSLETTER

No. 3

June 2003

General Meeting

Tuesday 1st July 2003 at 8.00 p.m.

College Church Hall, 188 Gatehouse Street, Parkville

Hear

Rob Mactier

Community Liaison Officer, City of Melbourne

Who Do You Go To When You Need Help from the Council?

Warm up with a mulled wine – then listen to Rob Mactier speak on his role in community liaison with City of Melbourne. Bring along any queries you may have, as there will be time for questions and discussion following the talk.

All welcome

Parkville Association Calendar of Events 2003

Event	Date & Time	Venue
Committee Meeting	12 Aug at 8.00 p.m.	College Church Hall
General Meeting	2 Sept at 8.00 p.m.	College Church Hall
Committee Meeting	7 Oct at 8.00 p.m.	College Church Hall
Cup Day – Changers in the Park	4 Nov at 5.00 p.m.	Adjacent to Native Garden
Committee Meeting	2 Dec. at 8.00 p.m.	College Church Hall

Winter Warmer

Parkville's Winter Warmer Dinner will be held on Tuesday 12th August 2003 and a flyer will go out to announce the details closer to this date.

Support from City of Melbourne

This year the Association has been fortunate again in receiving a Community Information Grant of \$2000 from the City of Melbourne and this is greatly appreciated. Indeed this *Newsletter* could not be produced without the Grant, and the City of Melbourne logo appears consistently on each issue of the *Newsletter* to acknowledge this support.

Parkville Treasures no. 3, by Norah Killip

South Parkville was declared an area of historical significance by the Melbourne City Council in 1972. Partly because the area had so many reminders of a way of life that had gone from other places. Sadly most of our more treasured examples have now also disappeared. Some new owners tear down back and side brick walls and tin fences without regard for the historic features many of them contain. However we have one significant remnant in Park Grove East. There may be found the last delivery hatch that is left to us, when 20 years ago we had nearly a dozen.

High in the wall of an old shed is a hatch from which hay was tossed out onto drays or carts to be delivered around the district. This height was of course to enable the carts to be drawn up beneath it. It dates from about 1920 when there were many carters living in South Parkville. For example Michael Callinan, who lived at 53 Morrah Street was a general carrier, on one occasion he helped bring the bones from the Flagstaff Gardens cemetery across the creek to be reinterred in the new Faulkner Cemetery. He often told his children how the bones would fall off his flat dray as he came over the Gully Creek crossing. This story is borne out by the numerous stories of human bones being found around the creek before it was covered in the 1920's.

Considering a Roller-Door? Think Again

Horizontal roller-doors are now available, offering a vertical perspective that is more in keeping with the lines of Victorian architecture, and preferable to the horizontal form of roller-

door. Wooden gates are another option and even corrugated iron can be used for gates that are functional and consistent with the vertical lines of Victorian architecture. For further information: contact Derek Duke (Tel. 9347 6037)

Membership

Please accept that your membership of the Association is welcome, even if you are not able to play an active role in the Association or participate in social activities. If you consider the Association's work is of value, then please support this work by becoming a member – a subscription form is included in this *Newsletter*. And if you are not happy with what the Association is doing – please let us know. Your feedback is important to the vitality of the Association.

Parkville Traffic Action Group

PTAG continues to work on traffic issues that trouble our residential area. The Group would welcome some additional volunteers; so if you are able to contribute to this action group, please contact Brenda Frok (9347 3490) or Brian Evans (9347 5992).

Parkville People

Stan Dean

Stan Dean would have to be the true quiet achiever. How many would know that Stan played such a major role in saving Parkville from early developments that would have demolished entire blocks of houses?

Beginning his working life as an office boy, Stan soon took up an apprenticeship in fitting and turning. By part-time study, he obtained a diploma in mechanical engineering before volunteering for Army service in 1942. He spent a year in Japan with the occupation force before completing a degree in engineering at Melbourne University. Stan then went overseas and worked in engineering research in both Britain and France. It was in Paris that he met his future wife, Margaret, when quite by chance they found they were booked to travel to Australia on the same ship. Back in Melbourne, Stan continued to work as an engineer. In his spare time he

obtained the degrees of Master of Mechanical Engineering and Bachelor of Arts.

Stan and Margaret have lived in the same house in Parkville for 45 years. They chose Parkville for the convenience of the inner-city location, but on arrival were delighted with the warm friendliness of the neighbourhood, something that still makes Parkville special for them.

Stan is proud that he, together with Eric Benjamin, played a key role in saving Parkville from developers. The first threat came in 1967 when the Hospitals and Charities Commission planned to demolish the houses in the area bounded by Gatehouse Street, Flemington Road, Park Drive and Morrah Street. On hearing news of the threat, Stan sought the advice of Eric Benjamin who formed a steering committee within 24 hours. Within a week, a well-attended meeting at College Church Hall established the Parkville Association, with Stan as its President, and with Eric as Secretary. Persuasive argument won the day and the Association's energy could be directed to its other main objective, the promoting of Parkville as a community. The *Parkvillains* group for children was formed by Eric who also established a welfare committee, which quietly assisted people with special needs.

In 1970, another threat arose, this time from the Royal Melbourne Hospital, which in order to extend its site was seeking to demolish some 80 houses in the block bounded by Story, Fitzgibbon and Morrah Streets and Park Drive, and there relocate University High School. The battle began. Plans were drawn up to show the hospital how its requirements could be fulfilled within its existing grounds. Eventually the battle was won when the Minister refused permission for the development. The Association recognized that a longer-term strategy was required to demonstrate the character of the area and prevent on-going attacks. Many people joined in collecting information, photographing and transcribing old ratepayers' records and photographing every house and building. With these materials, Hilary Lewis prepared a submission for an area classification, which Stan presented to the National Trust. At a meeting of the Association in 1972, Rodney Davidson (Chairman of the National Trust) announced the classification of Parkville as the first metropolitan urban area in Australia to be so classified.

Hilary Lewis reworked the submission to produce *South Parkville*, first published in 1974. A second edition, with additional material by Norah Killip, was published in 1996.

An environmental achievement Stan also recalls with satisfaction is persuading the Melbourne City Council to install a kerbed grass area, and later trees, in place of asphalt in Ievers Reserve between Morrah and Bayles Streets.

Until quite recently, Stan was a regular tennis player at the Parkville Tennis Club. Stan has also worked for fourteen years as a volunteer with TADVIC and is still involved in designing, making and/or modifying equipment that will promote independence for the disabled.

Stan's hope for Parkville is that it continues to function as a community, where people are concerned for each other.

Parkville owes much to Stan and the people who worked so hard to secure the recognition of the historic character of the area.

Heritage & Planning Issues

Royal Park & Games Village

The Association continues to speak out against this shameless alienation of public space, and presented a submission to the Commonwealth Games Planning Advisory Committee (Games Village) on 28th May 2003. The Royal Park Protection Group continues to be extremely active and its submission to the Advisory Committee was excellent.

Eastern Precinct

Melbourne University's 11-storey complex, known as the *Eastern Precinct*, will house 940 students. The complex will occupy most of the block bordered by Swanston, Faraday, Cardigan and Elgin Streets. Two days before Christmas 2002, the Planning Minister (Mary Delahunty) approved Becton's plans for the site. Melbourne City Council, the National Trust and the Carlton Residents' Association have appealed against the decision. The Parkville Association has supported the Carlton Residents' Association in this dispute and may be called to appear before the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (VCAT), which is hearing the case 11th–23rd June.

Trinity College's "Woodheap Project"

The Association was invited to discuss plans for this new building with College officials and the architect, Peter Elliott. The Association has expressed its concern at extremely modern design features considered to be unsympathetic to Trinity's heritage buildings, and is concerned also that the proposed building will project aggressively forward of the setbacks of the other Trinity College buildings in Royal Parade.

Hospitals

Following on from the Association's public meeting on 4th March 2003 with senior planning staff for the Royal Children's/ Royal Women's and Royal Melbourne Hospitals, Brian Evans is meeting with Alex Campbell (Women's & Children's Health) to urge that the dangers of the Gatehouse Street traffic entrance and exit be addressed as a first and most urgent concern.

Professor Kathy Alexander (WCH) has in the meantime confirmed that the height of the new building on the Royal Melbourne's Conabere Building site is likely to be some seven storeys, including three floors of private facilities, which is not what we understood to be the case as outlined at the General Meeting in March.

"Walmsley House" & its Environment

Council has advertised the work to be carried out around the old iron house, *Walmsley House*, situated between *The Lodge* and the *Native Gardens* near the corner of Gatehouse Street and The Avenue. The plans will allow for the demolition of old sheds, construction of a new shed and landscaping works. The Royal Park Protection Group has expressed some concerns to Council regarding the suitability of the trees

proposed for planting, recommending that these should be consistent and indigenous plantings.

Metropolitan Meat Market

Heritage Victoria has advertised Arts Victoria's plans for the Meat Market, 42 Courtney Street, North Melbourne. The Meat Market, including its remarkable interior, is a unique reminder of the market activity of inner Melbourne and forms part of our local surviving evidence of nineteenth century commercial activity. The heritage value of the building is recognized by its inclusion in the Victorian Heritage Register, in the Register of the National Estate and in its classification by the National Trust (Victoria). The plans include the building of a performance centre, which will form a capsule within the main hall of the Market building. The Association is concerned that the proposal will seriously compromise the visual intactness of the Meat Market's very fine main hall and damage its integrity and originality. Parkville Association will be represented at a hearing to be held by Heritage Victoria during June to examine concerns.

Dealing With Garden Waste

Free garden waste collection can be arranged by contacting CityWide Service Solutions on 1300 136 234. The collection takes place normally from 9.00 a.m. on weekends on a monthly basis according to a roster system for the area. Residents can also book one free annual collection of hard waste by 'phoning CityWide. For further information check *CityWide's Waste Wise Guide* (distributed to all households), or contact CityWide. The South Parkville Precinct Environment Group (SPPEG) is an excellent source of advice regarding rubbish and recycling; for further information about SPPEG, telephone 9347 2851.

Membership reminder – membership payments for January – December 2003 are due. If you have overlooked renewal, please use the renewal form below.

MEMBERSHIP/DONATION FORM			
Name:	Phone:		
Address:	Email:		
Renewal or New Member (please circle)			
Annual membership	– Individual \$15	Concession \$7.50	Family \$35
Life membership	– Individual \$150		
And/or donation for Heritage Fund \$..... and/or General Fund \$.....			

*Cheques should be made payable to The Parkville Association Inc.
Send form and payment to The Treasurer, Parkville Association, PO Box 54, Parkville 3052.*