

The Muriel Matters **Society Epistle** **No: 37 January 2017**



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Hello to All Members and Friends!

I hope this finds you all well, happy and ready for the Festive Season, and that you can join us for our next event:

Muriel Matters Society at Sea! Join us for a special escorted tour on:

Sunday 26 February, 2017

11.00am – 12.00 Noon

at

Clipper Ship 'City of Adelaide'

Dock 1, Pt Adelaide (enter off Wauwa Street)

Make sure to wear sensible shoes. Plenty of parking adjacent to ship.
(Please advise if you need a lift and we'll see what we can do!)

Limited places – so bookings essential!

Email murielmatterssociety@gmail.com or

Phone 0437 656 700 for further details.

**Cost: \$15 (Special Reduced Entry - all funds go to Clipper restoration).
Members welcome to stay for lunch at the nearby Port Dock Hotel.**

Volunteers Wanted

The Society was approached earlier this year about having a float in The Fringe Parade, Saturday 18 February, 2017. Muriel (Frances) will be in a balloon basket and we need some suitably costumed fit/energetic/mobile suffragists to walk beside the 'balloon' and perhaps hand out some information. Mustering at Torrens Parade Grounds at 7pm for an 8.30pm start, the commitment would be for several hours. Please call/email to register interest or for further information.

Recent News

- There will be another run for "Dames and Daredevils for Democracy", written by our esteemed member Phyl Lobl of NSW and Australian Folk Fame. To be undertaken by a company in Brisbane, dates to be advised.
- The naming of a street 'Muriel Matters Walk', in the new Bowden development has gone through – adjacent to the little park behind Jarmer's Restaurant. This being the case, work will begin on arranging for the installation of the sign, which will precede the work and fundraising on the long-awaited much-anticipated statue.
- Monograph work continues and it will be a priority to have to print asap.
- The Gallery remains a priority, too, with news shortly on the planning to date and opening date. Location is confirmed in The Institute Building (corner North Terrace and Kintore) and while unfortunately not the original concept, Muriel and the SA suffrage story will feature.
- The Society recently co-sponsored an event with BPW (Business & Professional Women) Adelaide. The 'Equal Pay Day' event, held 8 September at Lyrics (Festival Theatre), focused on an issue of great importance, which alongside superannuation, will have a great impact on the future women face while they work and after they retire.

- The Robert Wainwright biography 'Miss Muriel Matters' draft is at the printers and will be available in March. Please don't buy one yet though – stay tuned for news of a launch as we may be able to strike a deal for members.
- We are sad to advise of the death of Matters Family member Elaine Carter in WA. We met Elaine when she and her sister Lynette travelled to Adelaide for the premiere of 'Why Muriel Matters' at the Adelaide Town Hall in June 2010. Cards have been sent to the family on behalf of The Society.

Memberships

Still evaluating an on-line transaction system and will advise when this is in place. In the meantime, renewals will be sent with Xmas cards and the 2017 membership form will be on the web page, with subs remaining at the same rates. So, feel free to make a payment remembering it is worth considering the convenience of paying more than a year at a time. Paid to dates will be advised/emailed when the new system is up and running. Please keep us up to date with your contact details and advise if you change your email address - or acquire a new one. We will happily continue to mail to anyone without an email access.

Events

After feed-back from members last meeting about a Christmas Event, it was decided to avoid the really busy silly season, delaying until The Balloon Event in February - see front. Please email your thoughts about any central/city venues that you think might be suitable.

UK Happenings

Almost too much to tell – our first stop was Hastings and a new Chapter seems likely to start there shortly. The Hastings Council is re-naming their council office building the 'Muriel Matters Centre' in January and we will hopefully be collaborating with the Hastings Museum on a heritage walk map, thanks to the research work of Marie, Chris and Steven. Also need to thank Marilyn Saklatvala for her continuing help with information from Hastings and Sean and Thom from St Mary in the Castle; their office is in #7 Pelham Crescent (Muriel's old home) – they will be promoting MM and using some of our art work to raise funds to support their activities. We will soon have a 'Things to do in Hastings' page on web with a similar page for UK visitors to Adelaide.

London was great – the event at Westminster was well received, especially by the SNP MPs. We were thrilled new Home Secretary Amber Rudd (MP for Hastings & Rye) made time to come and meet us on opening day. We had great media coverage thanks to the ABC's Steve Cannane. Australia House again saw a great night and the new committee was installed – just waiting for the bank account to be set up to get things rolling. Lots of other appointments and connections made or followed up. More details in the trip report.

Presentations

2016 has seen reduced presentations to adult groups but school visits are on the increase. Please recommend us to your groups & keep Muriel in mind for that special occasion.

Merchandise

A new badge is available – our third badge was issued to launch the London and Hastings Chapters. Also a book mark and limited edition poster, (using the same art work - thank you Sue and Chris!) are new additions to our collection of ephemera. Come along to an event soon to purchase/have a look. Great Christmas gifts! Sales continue to support Society projects – our Seeds of Affinity soap the most popular line. Congratulations to Seeds, now 10 years old. We wish them all the best for the future.

Diary Dates

February 26, 2017 – Balloon Commemoration/Clipper Ship tour (see front page)

The Muriel Matters Society Inc.

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