

The Muriel Matters Society Epistle



No: 18 (February 2013)

Hello Members and Friends!

Proudly supported by:



Reminder of our next event:
104th Anniversary of The Balloon Flight on
Sunday, 10th February, 2013
from 10.00am to 11.30am

at MRC/Lions Community Centre, 23 Coglein Street, Adelaide 5000
(located between Gouger and Wright Streets, near Central Market).
RSVP (helpful!) to 0437 656 700 or murielmatterssociety@gmail.com

The event will see the debut of a new presentation, specifically on the history of balloon flights and focussing on the Spencer Family of aeronauts. This could be viewed as our first 'Muriel's Men' event because of the technical content! Captain Herbert Spencer, pilot of Muriel's pioneering flight above London, was a member of one of the generations of the famous Spencer Family of aeronauts. So come along and hear all we now know about the lead up to and happenings on that special day when people watching the sky over London made headlines all over the world.

Memberships

2012-13 payments can be made by cheque or direct bank transfer, using the form and information on the web page. Memberships for 2013-14 due at end of financial year (30/6). The Society is grateful for your continuing support – without your subs and kind donations, promotion of all things Muriel cannot progress. Thank you everyone!

*Email Addresses – still looking to update email address asap.

Adelaide News

* Society members Betty Fisher and Jane Lomax-Smith have been awarded the AM in New Year's honours list. Congratulations to them both on this well-earned achievement.

*Muriel (Frances in a 'Votes for Women' sash) stalked former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton during her time in Adelaide. The 'close encounter' outside Government House amounted to seeing a hand waving through the heavily tinted window of the Secretary's car. Secret Service in attendance observed 'Muriel' – I think she now has a file!!

Chapter News

VIC - Special thanks to Eileen from Melbourne who has been providing new information direct from the State Library of Victoria.

Also to Cora who is helping co-ordinate a proposed visit to renowned book town Clunes (near Ballarat) in May. If this goes ahead, we look forward to reporting on visits to several friends and members in the region and particularly to seeing some suffrage artefacts in the Ballarat area.

And to Jocelyn, who very kindly stepped out of her comfort zone to assist in the documentary.

TAS – almost managed to get down to see MMS friends and members in Hobart! The terrible bushfires have meant that the dates will need to be re-worked. Hopefully everyone there is recovering from this dreadful disaster.

NSW – a pre-election event for a sitting federal MP may see MM make another splash in the Big Smoke! Fingers crossed this will happen and give the Sydney chapter a boost.
WA – visit to enthusiastic MMS members and Matters Family high on the agenda.

UK News

*London Olympic Opening Ceremony – Wendy has managed to organise a copy of the ceremony. Technology permitting, it will be available for viewing at The Society's next event.

*Some of the recent purchases will be on display for The Balloon Event.

*Contact has been made with the new manager of St Mary in the Castle, near Muriel's Pelham Crescent home. Looks like the beginning of a new and hopefully harmonious collaboration. Grateful thanks to Barbara Rogers for her past and hopefully future interest.

*Irene Cockroft still working hard on the Centenary Exhibition of Emily Wilding Davison's death under the King's horse, Anmer. Catalyst for a famous suffragette procession, Emily's funeral is well documented. Muriel will be mentioned in the exhibition and we thank Irene for her enormous contribution and support and for continually providing research material – some of which will feature in the expanded Balloon presentation.

Merchandise

Still available - **Card Packs** (4 cards in each) and **Society Badges**, now priced at \$5 each, WMM commemorative **Programs** remain at \$5. The lovely sturdy **silver Key Ring**, featuring the 1924 drawing of Muriel we use as our logo, is still in limited stock and priced at \$15 each. New **Tea Towel** out soon!

These sales provide much needed revenue for other projects. Please secure your items by email or use order form on the web site. **Great Gifts!!**

Presentations

Group bookings continue to come in – happy to consider coming to groups you may have contact with. Every presentation is different, so if you've seen one, you have not seen them all! And remember, every outing presents opportunities for new information to be added and wins new MMS devotees!

The Muriel Documentary Update

Filming of the dramatic sequences has taken place in Adelaide's ABC Collinswood studios. Providing employment for an Adelaide actor and lots of crew, it looks to be a good little story, due to premiere at the Adelaide Film Festival later this year. Details will follow when confirmed.

Current Projects

Replica Holloway Badge – hopefully, closer than last newsletter!

Muriel Matters Monograph – work has commenced!

E Lessons & Children's Books – will be in work after monograph published

Embroidered Banner - design work yet to be finalised (size does matter!).

Diary Dates

10 February – MMS 2013 Balloon Anniversary event

16 February – 104th Anniversary of Balloon Flight

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