

The Muriel Project Epistle



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Hello Members and Friends!

Another exciting year has gone by with lots to report on to you all at our next function which will be our **Annual General Meeting & 3rd Birthday Party** on:

**Sunday, 26 August, 2012
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.

Come and join us for the **premiere of the BBC History Hunt episode on Muriel Matters** and hear a recap of Society events of the past 12 months along with an update of projects in work and those on the drawing boards! As usual, morning tea (cake & light refreshments) will be provided. Hope to see you there!

Memberships: for those yet to renew, payments can be made at the meeting or via the form enclosed. Your subs keep Muriel happening – thank you!

UK Revisited – G'day USA

Frances reported on her successful private trip to the members who attended the June meeting at Robin Hood Hotel. In **Hastings, Aylesbury and London** all events went really well and the MMS continues to strengthen its ties to our friends in the Mother Country and beyond. It was wonderful to finally meet Muriel's great niece Patricia and hear her reminiscences of her visits with Aunt Muriel.

By the way, hear there may be something of interest to us in the upcoming London Olympic Opening Ceremony – better stay up late or watch the replays!

In **Washington**, Frances met with Ambassador Beazley and our research friend Jeanette and had dinner with Society expats Reg and Linda (due home soon) and had a tour of The Capitol with Bunny, a contact via Sarah (Woman's Christian Temperance Union). Thanks to all for their kindness and hospitality. By the way, the WCTU will be in Adelaide next year for their international conference, so we look forward to meeting with them during their time in SA.

BBC TV Film has Arrived!

The Society assisted in the production of an episode in this popular children's TV show. We have finally received a copy of the finished segment which I hope you will agree is a worthwhile further step to promote MM in the UK.

With the help of Jane L-S, we also hope to have some exciting news about an event at Australia House very soon!!!

Documentary Begins!

After securing funding, our producers, Claire and Julia, have begun work! A 30 minute episode for ABC TV's Artscape will feature Muriel's artistic life and how her elocution and theatrical accomplishments were used to further The Cause.

Speaking of docos, another new documentary on women and the vote screened recently on ABC TV. 'Utopia Girls' told the story of how Australian women gained the right to vote. If you missed it, and would like to see it, please let us know.

Embroidered Banner Commissioned

The Embroiderer's Guild of SA has kindly accepted our commission and await our design brief (on its way). We have recently accepted an amazing donation of \$1,000 from the TTG & Dist. Historical Society (one of our organisation members) for this particular project. A special thank you to Carol and Lea and all involved in this wonderful gesture.

Chapter News

Steph and Frances recently visited Melbourne to celebrate **Jocelyn's 90th Birthday**. One of Muriel's nieces, Jocelyn is one of Muriel's closest (and longest surviving!) relatives. It was wonderful to share a special lunch with her and some of her family along with Caroline and Geoff – our first opportunity to meet these descendants of M's mum's Warburton Family. A visit was also made to the **Melbourne Museum**, in the shadow of the grand Exhibition Building, to see the sterling silver suffrage muffineer and suffrage badge (which we have been able to identify as one from the NUWSS) held in their collection. These items will soon go on display in Ballarat. The museum also has a hunger strike on display, not far from Phar Lap's exhibition. One day, all these items should be on permanent display together! (Another job for the MMS?!)

Other **Ballarat** links have been strengthened with a lunch meeting in Adelaide a few weeks ago with Val and John from the Royal South Street Society. They have been kind enough to look for Muriel's results in the nationally famous eisteddfod that bears the RSS name. (Lionel Logue adjudicated there in the early 1900s and beyond.)

Merchandise

Sales continue to support Society activities. **Card Packs** (4 cards in each) and **Society Badges** are now priced at \$5 each. WMM commemorative **Programs** remain at \$5 and only a few **Commemorative Hankies** remain, priced at \$20 they will never again be reprinted. Definitely a collector's item - ephemera of the future!

New lines: the **Balloon Commemorative Tea Towel** (white cotton with purple motif and wording) almost sold out, while the lovely sturdy **silver Key Ring**, featuring the 1924 drawing of Muriel we use as our logo is in limited stock. Both are priced at \$15 each. Please email or use order form on the web site!

Presentations

Still spreading the word via regular presentations to groups of all sizes. New members result from each occasion and merchandise sales are particularly popular at these events.

Significant Current Lines of Investigation

- * Always seeking new photos of MM and photos of William Arnold Porter are still elusive and remain high on our wish list.
- * We are indebted to a friend from the Victoriana Society for information on Utopia Girls.
- * New shipment of goodies from Elizabeth in London has arrived – see them on display at AGM.

Diary Dates

*26 August - Annual General Meeting - see you there!

The Muriel Matters Society Inc.

PO Box 87, Modbury North SA 5092

M) 0437 656 007 (business hours and after hours messages)

E) murielmatterssociety@gmail.com

W) www.murielmatterssociety.com.au