

The Muriel Project Epistle No: 7 (October 2010)



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Hello Everyone!

Notice of AGM/Muriel's Birthday Morning Tea

The 1st Annual General Meeting will be held on

Sunday, 14 November, 2010 at 10.30am

at the Ron Radford Auditorium, behind the Art Gallery of SA
(off North Terrace, see map on back).

Minimal Cost: \$7.50 Members, \$5 Concessional Members

This will cover tea/coffee and birthday cake.

RSVP essential for catering - murielmattersociety@gmail.com

The Meeting will receive Society Executive Reports, a report on the recent trip to unveil the Blue Plaque in Hastings UK and discuss future directions, especially on the sort of Social Justice issue The Society would like to pursue.

Membership Renewals Due

Thanks to those who have already sent in their subs. This really helps us with our administration and to back up our claims of strong community support.

Accompanying this newsletter will be the 2010-2011 renewal form – if you have already renewed, please pass onto friends!

Progress Continues

The Grille Exhibition – A display of the portion of The Grille on long term loan from Westminster is being organised and will be opened by The Speaker, Hon Lyn Breuer, at Parliament House on Thursday 28 October, 2010 (the 102nd anniversary of the event!) at 3.30pm. Members are welcome to come into Centre Hall (use main entrance off North Terrace) on the day or any time during business hours afterwards to see this beautifully ornate and marvellous link to our Muriel. See you there!

Documentary – The Society has already been involved in recording footage for this project. We are fortunate to have a great production team who arranged for the unveiling at Hastings to be recorded.

Women's Christian Temperance Union (WCTU) – A delegation from the WCTU has made contact regarding forthcoming events they are planning around important dates for their former state and national president, Elizabeth Webb Nicholls. Her work with Catherine Helen Spence and Mary Lee helped SA women achieve dual suffrage. The WCTU was behind Votes for Women all over Australia as well as in the USA and UK. Plenty to explore here. Muriel spoke at the WCTU on her 1910 visit to Adelaide.

School Records in Pt Augusta – Records have been located revealing Muriel and her siblings Elsie and Harold attended the Pt Augusta school in 1885. They lived in Jervois Street (house still to be identified) for just on 12 months, after which records show they 'left the district'. Another great success and link established on Muriel's school days as we learnt from the records she attended Miss Ross' private school before enrolling in Pt Augusta.

P.T.O.

Canberra Visits – Met with the National Archives of Australia and received a good hearing from senior staff as well as offers of assistance. While in the national capital, the National Museum of Democracy was also visited. I am able to report they will now incorporate an extensive entry on Muriel in new displays – further success!

Follow Ups

*An application has been made to the Museum of London to borrow Muriel's chains – the actual set she used in 1908. The loan will take some months to complete. We hope we can be successful to reunite these two artefacts (the chain with the grille) - and in Muriel's home town.

*Other really important Canberra introductions will see great steps forward in preparatory work towards establishing the need for a museum of some kind on voting and franchise.

MM Merchandise – Great Christmas Gift Ideas!

Plenty of merchandise still available – Society badges (\$10), Muriel cards (\$10 for a pack of 4) and limited stock of Centenary Hankies – never to be reprinted (\$20). Also, WMM Centenary souvenir booklets and programs (\$5).

Public Presentations

Still making regular presentations to clubs and organisations around Adelaide. If you are in touch with any groups that would like to learn more about Muriel, please let us know. A presentation will be made to the BPW National Conference in Perth towards the end of October. Special thanks to the members of that prestigious group who arranged the invitation.

Work to Do

*Still looking for the breakthrough on William Porter's life in the USA, personal life before MM and professional work in the field of dentistry in the UK and USA.

*Still to visit the Lands Titles Office (LTO) on a Friday – their quietest day!

*Still need to know more on MM's theatrical and music life – before and after arriving in London.

Diary Dates

* The Grille Exhibition opens at Parliament House on Thursday 28 October.

* AGM and Muriel's Birthday Morning Tea – Sunday 14 November at the Ron Radford Auditorium (rear of Art Gallery of SA, off North Terrace).

