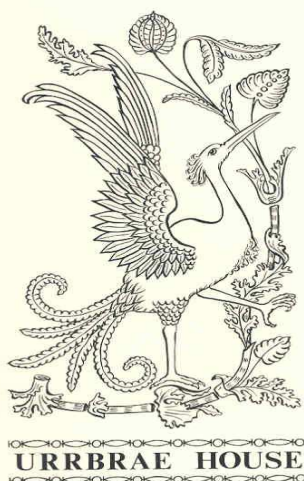


Newsletter November 2014



The Friends of Urrbrae House

Urrbrae House, University of Adelaide, Waite Campus, PMB#1 GLEN OSMOND, SA 5064. Tel 8313 7497

Editor Vicki Cheshire

President's Report -

It is my great pleasure to say that our general membership is a dedicated group of wonderful people who appreciate the Waite legacy as much as our committee does. Your attendance at events is essential, and by coming along you are able to appreciate the 'Grand Beauty' that is Urrbrae House. If you could recommend membership to friends and family, this would be very much appreciated.

This year we have supported the staff at Urrbrae House by helping at events and programs and have our help reciprocated at our own fundraising events. As President I am pleased that our time, planning, hard work and service to Urrbrae House and the University is valued and what we give is returned.

It has been a great year for restoration in the House. Due to fundraising over a few years we have been able to provide funds for quality restoration, painting and fittings of a downstairs children's bedroom – soon to be open to the public. We are also looking at purchasing some curtains, piano cover and carpet for the music area in the Ballroom. Our members can all feel proud that their attendance at events and the hard work by the committee has allowed this to happen.

We now require help to maintain our database and thank Peggy Rowe for continuing this valuable service to Urrbrae House. This is not a large task but requires a knowledge of excel and mailing programs. Could this be your donation to Urrbrae? Please phone Bill Wallace 83326495 if you can help.

Dates for your diary

November 9th Solstice Singers
(3 for 3.30) **Spring Romance**

November 17th Emma Horwood
(5.30 for 6) **Christmas Harp**

December 1st Urrbrae Friends'
Christmas Party
(5.30 – 7pm)

The highlight of this year, for me, was when Margaret Neate gave the wonderful gift of a grand piano to Urrbrae House; the ramification of this for the Friends of Urrbrae House is that our concert programs can be extended. It was with great pleasure that our committee gave Margaret an Honorary Lifetime Membership.

On Monday evening 1st December we will be joining with the Friends of the Waite Arboretum and Friends of Waite Conservation Reserve for our joint Christmas Party, this is an opportunity to say 'Thank-you' for your support as Friends of Urrbrae House. We look forward to seeing you there.

Vicki Cheshire, President, Friends of Urrbrae House

Manager's Musings



Teddy Bears' Picnic

The weather was perfect for our annual Teddy Bears' Picnic on 1 October. The local Teddy Bear makers led by Kay Schulz set up their Teddy Hospital, and Urrbrae House staff and volunteers provided activities for about 150 children, parents and grandparents (plus their bears, rabbits, dinosaurs, unicorns, dogs and even a dolphin). Many of the visitors had not been to Urrbrae House or the gardens before, and a number of parents said that they would tell their friends about visiting in the future.

We were delighted that the very newest great, great, great, great grandson of Peter Waite attended the picnic today at the ripe old age of two weeks old. His great grandmother, Marion Wells also came along bringing the oldest Teddy visitor who is about 90 years old.



University Engagement Branch outreach and education at Urrbrae House

Urrbrae House staff and volunteers collaborated with the Children's University to run our Schools' history program during the October school holidays for children from Lake Windermere School at Salisbury North on 8 October. Talking to the children and accompanying parents at the end of the session, many had (to quote one young girl) "never been to a place like this before" and few were aware that the Waite Campus was actually part of the University of Adelaide.

Then on 9 October Amanda, Ilonka and I ran a pilot "History and Science" morning for 20 budding scientists aged 6-12 years accompanied by their parents and grandparents in conjunction with a new Helix Science Club being run by Rona Sakko. In July this year CSIRO's popular and long-standing interactive children's Double Helix Science Club was axed due to funding cuts. Since then Rona has been working with other organisations to continue to provide hands-on learning activities to children who are interested in science. We plan to continue collaborating with Rona in the future.

The Urrbrae House staff have also again been involved in the "Food for Thought" Program run in conjunction with the Office for Future students (who run Adelaide Compass) and the School of Agriculture, Food and Wine. The program is focused on plants as food and is designed to build aspiration within selected northern suburbs' school communities by showing students that university study is possible for them. On 23 October 70 students from Mark Oliphant College took part in the program at the house.



Building work and painting

Restoration work continues on the south-eastern corner of the building. In addition, as repairs are completed to the exterior of the building you will see a new colour scheme emerging. Heritage architect, Andrew Klenke from Swanbury Penglase, has undertaken research based on old photographs and paint scrapings in an effort to come up with a palette of colours for the external paintwork of the house more in keeping with the original decoration of the house while making the most of the house's architecture.



The Smith Family and Christmas Greetings

From 4 November until 15 December the Christmas Tree in the Main Hall of Urrbrae House will be a collection point for The Smith Family's Toy and Book Appeal. The gift of a new toy or book will bring a smile to a disadvantaged child's face this Christmas. Sadly, thousands of Australian children will go without receiving a gift this holiday season simply because their families cannot afford it. The Smith Family aims to deliver over 43,500 toys and 29,000 books to disadvantaged children around Australia this year. If you can donate a new toy or book please ensure that it is not wrapped and is no larger than a school backpack. Please ensure that batteries are included if they are needed to operate a toy.

On behalf of Amanda, Ilonka and myself, and our casual staff members Lyn, Natalie and Graham we would like to wish all of the Friends a beautiful Christmas and thank you for your continuing support.

Lynette Zeitz

Award of Honorary Life Membership

At the Twilight Concert on 29th September the award of Honorary Life membership of The Friends of Urrbrae House was made to Margaret Neate.

Margaret has supported the activities in Urrbrae House over many years including playing the piano in the Drawing Room during 'Open Days', research on the history of the Waite Family and their support for the local contralto Clara Kleinschmidt (later Clara Serena) and recently the very generous benefaction of a new Yamaha Grand Piano to be located in the Ballroom.



Bill Wallace presenting the award to Margaret Neate

There are four other Honorary Life Members, people who have given extraordinary service to the Committee or ongoing financial support for the work of the House. These are Bernard Arnold, Lyn McKay, Dr Max Tate, and Glenn Woodward. They were invited guests at the above concert with Bernard an apology.

Committee Members Needed

Our committee currently has vacancies. I can say with great joy that the current committee is one of the most harmonious and hardworking group of people that I have had the pleasure to work with.

We deal with Friends of Urrbrae House social events, some fundraising, and allocation of funds to projects around the house under the guidance of the house management. New members are NOT expected to hold executive positions, just help out at events where available and attend four 1.5hr meetings per year if possible.

Please contact Vicki Cheshire 0433022247 or Bill Wallace 83326495 for information.

Can't be a Committee member?

If you have any way that you can help at events in 2015 please approach one of our members. We would be very grateful if you did! No expertise is required; can you help serve a glass of wine or cut some savouries to be served before Twilight Concerts? That's just the sort of help that is needed.

Please contact Vicki or Bill.

A close up and inside look at the 'City of Adelaide' Clipper

Recently I was a guest of the Royal Overseas League for lunch at the Victory Hotel, Port Adelaide and a tour of the 'City of Adelaide' Clipper, in its temporary location at Dock 1. I enjoyed a 'City of Adelaide' lager at the lunch.

With the Clipper currently sitting on a barge, one can walk around it and appreciate its size and especially its height when at full sail above the water; 'clipping' above the waves rather than ploughing through them.



The 'City of Adelaide' was one of the first experimental ships built with an iron frame supporting a wood structure. Three main types of wood were used when the Clipper was built in Sunderland and launched in May 1864, teak, oak and American elm. The keel and lower wood is elm and that used for the keel was from a large piece of timber.

The hull below the waterline was initially sheathed in 'yellow metal' an alloy of copper and zinc.

In November 1877, eight days out of Port Augusta en route for London the Clipper lost its rudder in a storm. A replacement rudder was made at Fletcher's Slip, Port Adelaide from two pieces of grey ironbark *Eucalyptus paniculata*.

After the City of Adelaide was decommissioned as a clipper in 1887, it carried coal around the British coast and later timber across the Atlantic. In 1893 it became an isolation hospital in Southampton, and in 1923 was purchased by the Royal Navy as a training ship. In 1948 it was donated to the Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve Club and towed into central Glasgow for use as the club's headquarters. It remained on the River Clyde until 1989 when it was damaged by flooding and later sank at its mooring in 1991. It was recovered by the Scottish Maritime Museum the following year, and moved to a private slipway adjacent to the museum's site in Irvine. The main deck was sealed to protect lower decks from rain and some preliminary preservation undertaken.

Despite such a varied history the basic structure of the clipper is still very sound.

The main deck was used for second-class passengers on the outward journey to Adelaide and rearranged for the transport of wool and other commodities on the return journey. In most of the early voyages there were about 20 second-class passengers but in 1874, 254 assisted migrants were listed as steerage class. There was also a crew of 35-40.



While in use as a hospital isolation ship, off the coast of Southampton from 1893 -1923, for diseases such as smallpox and scarlet fever, larger windows were added to let more light into the main and saloon deck.

When I visited the upper saloon class it was interesting to imagine the arrangement of the 14 cabins and which one Matilda Methuen occupied on her trip on the maiden voyage of 1864 ahead of her marriage on arrival to Peter Waite. Each cabin had its own W.C. in addition to two shared bathrooms.

The clipper is currently at Dock 1, Port Adelaide (entrance from Jubilee Street). Volunteers attend it every day between 10 and 4.

Generally there is the possibility of a close up look at the Clipper from the barge on which it is sitting on the special frame constructed for its transport back to Adelaide. However internal guided tours are only available by arrangement with Board members at this stage.

It is hoped that deliberations on the final location of the 'City of Adelaide' at Fletchers Slip will soon be completed with its location there a feature of a Seaport Village. This is a good location between Port Adelaide and Semaphore.

Bill Wallace

Colonial Tea Dance

Members of the Adelaide Colonial Dancers and Australian and Traditional Bush Dance Society joined the Friends of Urrbrae House for a very enjoyable time on Sunday afternoon 17th August. Many commented on how wonderful it was to have the opportunity to dance in the ballroom of a grand home.

The dances which included waltzes and quadrilles were easy to follow with the instruction provided by Maureen Morris and Pauline Clarke who shared the duties of caller. Darrell Clarke arranged the music. Old time favourites, the 'The Pride of Erin' and 'Military Two Step' were popular.

Afternoon tea was enjoyed in the Main Hall and Drawing Room.

There were forty people in attendance but we could have accommodated another twenty who would also have enjoyed the atmosphere of the occasion.

Bill Wallace



Sandra Morrison, Vicki Cheshire, Lyn Marlow



Film event 2015

After the success of this year's film event 'Grace of Monaco' members of the Urrbrae Precinct Friends groups are currently working towards another Film Presentation at the Capri Theatre early in 2015. This will be our major fundraiser for the year.

Details will be sent to you as the event is organised.

We hope you can get a group together to have a fun time at this wonderful theatre and help all of the friends groups in their fundraising.

Musical Triptych

We were treated to an exhilarating concert on 25th August by violinist Wendy Heiligenberg, pianist Monika Laczofy and flautist Linda Pirie all outstanding soloists in their own right. Combined, they produced pure magic in music by JS Bach, Francois Doppler, Johannes Brahms and a colourful Spanish inspired two-part invention by the French composer Jacques Ibert.

All musicians have had wide national and international careers and all are staff members of the Elder Conservatorium.

The concert was presented by Vivente Music.



Wendy Heiligenberg, violin; Monika Laczofy, piano; Linda Pirie, flute.

Hugh McClelland

New Era for Urrbrae House

On 29th September it was with a great deal of anticipation and excitement that 90 music lovers descended the Urrbrae House staircase to the re-painted Ballroom to hear the inaugural recital on the gleaming new Yamaha Grand Piano.

Donated by Margaret Neate, the new piano is one of the most generous gifts ever made to Urrbrae House and will open up a new era of chamber music and solo recitals in the House.

In keeping with Margaret's wishes highly talented young Elder Conservatorium students Callum Gunn and Macerena Zambrano stunned the audience with works by Bach, Beethoven, Debussy and Prokofiev. Not only was their playing of concert hall standard but



Callum Gunn, Margaret Neate, Macerena Zambrano

showcased the full range and rich tones of the new piano. Callum has won many awards and scholarships and has already appeared in concerts in Adelaide and overseas. Chilean born Macerena moved to Adelaide in 2014, has likewise been a winner of many scholarships and is currently doing a Masters degree at the Elder Conservatorium.

In a sensational finale to the inaugural recital the two artists combined for a rendition of Poulenc's highly evocative and technically demanding Sonata for 4 Hands.

Minas Berberyan remarked after the concert that the inaugural concert had 'been a huge success' 'The two high achieving students presented a piano recital of the highest standard', 'The new instrument came into life under masterful hands.' 'The responsive instrument with such rich harmonies throughout the registers gave the opportunity to the two young artists to perform such demanding works' 'The new piano will enhance Urrbrae House's reputation as the pre-eminent venue for chamber music in Adelaide'

Bravo, Margaret Neate!

Hugh McClelland

Teddy Bears' Picnic

October 1st members of the FOUH were proud to be a part of this Schools' Holiday event presented by Urrbrae House Precinct Management.

For a change this year, the event was held in splendid weather. Many families enjoyed activities designed for under 8's, and had their own picnics in the glorious gardens at Urrbrae House. Face painting was expertly provided by Splodge. The coach house was the venue for the Teddy Hospital, with many teddies receiving wellness reports and a teddy bear biscuit to share with their loving owners. Special thanks and bears hugs to the tireless Teddy Bear Craft group from Mitcham's Gallery One under the expert guidance of Kay Schulz (seen above).



Grand Parade of Teddies and their owners

If you want to look at the one of a kind beautiful collector teddies they make you can contact Kay on her website <https://www.etsy.com/au/shop/KaysBearsandfriends> and if you would like to learn to make teddies this will give you information about Gallery One's classes: <http://www.galleryone.org.au/classes.html>

Many thanks go to all the tireless workers and volunteers who made this a wonderful community event. I am sure many Mummies and Daddies (Grannies and Grandies) had many tired little teddy bears after such a fun-filled sunny spring day.

Vicki Cheshire

Goldberg Variations

If the sheer musical genius of Johann Sebastian Bach is the benchmark by which other composers are judged then surely his brilliant 31 Goldberg Variations were the pinnacle of his genius.

Composed in 1741 originally for harpsichord the Variations have been transcribed for a wide range of instruments and ensembles and recorded dozens of times. Most notable was the 1954 hallmark recording by the Canadian pianist Glenn Gould still widely admired.

On 20th October we were delighted to hear the work performed by the Vivente String Quartet and pianist John Rego on the new concert grand piano in the Ballroom of Urrbrae House. Superbly performed the concert explored this timeless work in a unique way providing a contrast between the original and a transcription for stringed instruments.

Once again Minas Berberyan brought world class music making to Urrbrae House. It was a hallmark concert of which Bach would have applauded.



Minas Berberyan violin; Erna Berberyan, violin; Linda Garrett, viola; Cameron Waters, cello; John Rego, piano.

Hugh McClelland



Events to look forward to:

Friday November 9th 3pm for 3.30 *Spring Romance with the Solstice Singers*

Do you love close vocal harmonies in songs of sweet romance? So do we! Solstice is a small vocal swing group performing a range of swing/jazz: Gershwin, Porter, Rogers and Hart, and popular Sondheim, Lennon & McCartney – songs, with music director Ian Boath and accompanist Angela Turner.

This year to celebrate Spring in the beautiful gardens of Urrbrae House, we are delighted to share with you a selection of some wonderful songs about Spring and love. A special guest, flautist Cassandra Boath, will also perform, accompanied by Angela Turner.

Payment to be made at the door: \$20 includes refreshments.

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL Email: **billwallace01@gmail.com** or phone **8332 6495** and if necessary leave a message. Bookings are essential as we usually have a waiting list, **please advise of cancellations**.

Please note that the concert will be held in the Ballroom and due to the heritage nature of the house, concert attendees must be able to manage stairs.

Monday 17th November 5pm for 5.30 *Twilight Concert: Christmas Harp -SOLD OUT - Emma Horwood Harp and Vocals*

Join acclaimed Adelaide soprano and harpist Emma Horwood for a wonderful programme to welcome the Festive Season, including innovative arrangements of traditional carols, harp solos and contemporary Christmas songs.

Cost \$20 Refreshments included. Payment to be made at the door.

Bookings essential, phone **82771426** email **peggy.rowe1@bigppond.com** Unless specifically requested, Peggy will let you know only if seats are NOT available. **As seats are limited and we usually have a waiting list, please advise of cancellations.**

Monday December 1st 5.30 – 7pm *Combined Friends of the Waite Historic Precinct Christmas Event* A celebration of another successful year. Join us for drinks, nibbles and Christmas cake in the Main Hall of Urrbrae House and enjoy some Christmas Carols in the Drawing room.

*We wish you a very merry
Christmas and a safe and
happy Holiday Season*

*Thank you to all our supporters during 2014,
we look forward to your company in 2015.*



You can view this newsletter online at:

<http://www.waite.adelaide.edu.au/urrbraehouse/friends/>

**We welcome the following
new FOUH members:**

Ramute Stankevicius