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South Hobart Progress Association Inc.

President: Kevin Wilson (Incorporating Cascades Progress Association) Secretary: David Halse Rogers
Founded 1922

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<http://www.tased.edu.au/tasonline/sthhbtpa>

No. 211 October 2004

ABN 65 850 310 318

NEXT SHPA MEETING

The next meeting of the SHPA for 2004 will be held on **Wednesday 13th October, 2004 at 8.00 pm** in The South Hobart Community Centre, 42 D'Arcy Street, South Hobart. All Welcome.

FEMALE FACTORY MUSTER

Female Factory
Degraes Street, Cascades

On Sunday the 7th November 2004 between 10:00 am & 4:00 pm, there will be a Muster held at the Female Factory Heritage Site at Cascades (South Hobart). All interested people, and particularly descendants of female convicts, are invited to attend. The lives of the women of the Female Factory will be celebrated, and the event will afford an opportunity for Tasmanians to acknowledge the many and varied contributions made by the convict women to the formation of this community. The day will feature events of interest to those who have no personal connection with the female convicts but would like to learn more about them and their experiences. It will include educational programmes and practical genealogy, as well as artistic performances and exhibits to portray different aspects of convict life. Descendants of the convict women are invited to bring the story of their convict ancestor to the Female Factory, and will be encouraged to enter their names on the Muster's database, which will involve all the families who are descended from women transported to Van Diemen's Land.

[The Female Factory Muster is supported by the State Government through the Tasmanian Bicentenary Grants Programme.]

STREETSCAPE COMPETITION

The SHPA Streetscape Competition is on again. It is open to all residents who have completed improvements to their properties—be it renovations or restoration work to buildings, fences or gardens. To nominate, just send a "before" photo to The Judging Panel PO Box 200 South Hobart 7004 with details of

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the works and include your name, address and telephone number. You can nominate your own property or that of a neighbour or friend.

SHPA MEMBERSHIP 2004/5

Membership renewal fell due at the beginning of July. The cost of membership is still only \$2. Remember that members get free admission to our annual Bonfire & Fireworks Night in May each year. Whilst the monies realised from memberships is not crucial to the viability of the Association, the number of fully paid up members helps establish our credibility when dealing with government organisations and instrumentalities.

HCC BICENTENARY FUNDS

The SHPA Inc. has written to the Hobart City Council endorsing its plans to spend funds completing the Hobart Rivulet Linear Park through to Tara Street. Level access will be a boon to the elderly, the disabled and parents with children in strollers. This would complete the project commenced in 1988 for Australia's Bicentenary.

HOME RENOVATIONS: AN OCCASIONAL SERIES FENCES - PART III

Some common mistakes ... and how to avoid them

1. Removal of existing fence or wall (when conservation/repair would be feasible.) Retain original fences and elements; conserve and repair original fences, doing 'as much as is necessary, but as little as possible.' If you have an original or early fence ... maintain it! It is much easier to repair a fence when it needs attention than to replace it 'authentically' at a later date.
2. Wrong style for period of home Examples: Victorian pickets outside a Federation house; timber pickets

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outside 'Streamlined' 1930s flats. Make sure that the fence matches the building in terms of period, style and character. Front fences should contribute to the setting of the buildings to which they relate.

3. Of standard 'off the shelf' details. If there is part of the original fence left (it may have ended up in the garden or somewhere else on the property) use this as a model to design the new fence. If it is a picket fence, take the remaining members to a wood turner, joiner or timber yard and ask them to cut new pickets and posts to match. If the entire traditional fence is gone, search for old photographs of the house, which may show what the fence looked like." Don't be tempted to add finials or over-elaborate picket head styles.

4. Wrong height. Front fences traditionally establish or reinforce the setting of the old house, delineating the boundary between the public street and the front garden. The front fence should not mask or conceal the house. The usual height of picket fences ranged from three feet (915 mm) for small cottages with a narrow frontage to four foot six inches (1370 mm) for more commanding residences with wider frontages. However, 1220 mm (four feet) was a very commonly used height. Pickets were of uniform height, or increased in height nearer the post. 1800 mm high picket fences look awkward - the pickets are also inclined to warp. Fences of 1800 mm height (six feet) traditionally enclosed only side and rear yards - and these are generally unpainted paling fences rather than masonry walls. Building a high front wall to the street will have an adverse impact upon the setting of your house and its contribution to the neighbouring streetscape, not to mention the increased risk from burglary.

5. Wrong materials. Houses in the 1930s & 1940s usually had low brick

walls & piers, with decorative wrought iron railings between fences. These should be retained rather than being replaced by timber picket fences (which belong to an earlier era). The inappropriate use of materials such as aluminium palisades and corrugated sheeting should also be avoided.

6. Pickets too close. The spacing between the pickets usually matched the actual picket width. Fences which have narrow gaps between the pickets (less than 40 mm) are not characteristic of traditional construction techniques.

7. Natural timber finish. Raw, unpainted treated pine picket fences never match the character of an old building.

8. Colours/Painting/Rendering of masonry. Avoid using too many different colours; Although common to apply render to retaining walls in the late nineteenth century and during the Federation period, most fences and walls constructed in the twentieth century feature exposed (or 'face') brickwork. Occasionally, a selection of contrasting bricks was used to decorative effect or *tuck-pointing* was used (contrasting mortar mixed with black, red or white oxides). Rendering or painting of these masonry walls & fences obliterates the visual qualities of the original materials & textures.

9. No Council approval. Don't start any work before obtaining necessary planning, building and/or heritage approvals. The HCC's Heritage Officer will be able to offer further advice on fencing. Contact: **Mr. Brendan Lennard** on **6238 2883**. ©HCC 2003. Available HCC.

SOUTH HOBART NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH
Next meeting of South Hobart Neighbourhood Watch will be advised. Contact **Otto Bitterman** on **6223 1465**.

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