

# The Muriel Matters Society Epistle

No: 57 January 2022



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DELAIDE  
CITY COUNCIL

Hello to All Members and Friends!

The New Year is already well underway – hopefully you are safe, well and happy. Please read below about current happenings:

*The Muriel Matters Society Inc.*

## **2022 Balloon Virtual Commemoration on Wednesday, 16 February 2022**

**This year, due to continuing COVID restrictions, we invite you to listen  
to**

*Muriel's Verbatim Account of The Balloon Protest*

(<https://www.murielmatterssociety.com.au/home-page/13-2/>)

### **Recent News**

- Muriel Matters Week 2021 was celebrated with a well-attended outdoor morning tea on 13 November, which started in Muriel Matters Walk, Bowden (not far from the interpretive sign) but eventually moved to Kevin Taylor Park. Thanks to everyone who helped move the refreshments and tables at short notice! The move was necessary because of the gusting wind that persisted in what appears to be a natural wind tunnel. Muriel was 'toasted', and her life and legacy remembered. The sign, erected in February 2017, has been damaged and we will need to approach the City of Charles Sturt to assess and remediate the damage, caused during the construction of the most recent apartments on MM Walk. Thanks to Lise for being a vigilant 'caretaker' and observer of the sign and happenings around it on MM Walk.
- The Christmas Get Together was again well attended. Held at NCW House on 5 December, again with COVID restrictions in place. Thanks go to Wendy and all the helpers who assisted with the refreshments and set up/pack up. Both 'Mrs Pankhurst' and 'Dora' were on display and Frances gave a talk on the significance of the recently purchased (at auction) Acme London Met. Police whistle, circa 1910. Joseph Hudson and his family manufactured hundreds of thousands of whistles (especially for WWI!) and they were used by the police during suffrage rallies and demonstrations.
- There will be another artistic offering about MM's life – this time performed and with music composed by the obviously discerning and brilliant SA woman, Erin McKellar, who visited the MM Room at NCW House in December. It was a delight to provide background information on MM and to present Erin with a cameo similar to the one worn by Muriel. We hope it will bring her good luck at every performance and remind her we are all behind her artistic endeavours.
- Children's book/s – looking forward to finally getting things underway in the second quarter of 2022.
- Interesting suffrage/Edwardian items for sale – anywhere - remain few and far between. We are always on the lookout for anything that will add to our collection and story about Muriel and the exciting times in which she lived.

## Obituaries

It is with great sadness we advise of three losses in the past little while:

**Hugh Dunseith** - related to Muriel through her brother, Leonard. Although we never had the opportunity to meet Hugh, we have been lucky enough to form a close relationship and friendship with his sister, Patricia. We extend to her and all Hugh's family our sincere condolences.

**Sr Janet Mead** – Adelaide's 'singing nun', recognised the importance of Muriel and the work of The Society in our very earliest days. Her encouragement, support and interest were of great help and she has been an inspiration to us and many thousands of people in many spheres of life. Her loss is keenly felt by all her family and legion of friends, and they are all in our thoughts. She will be greatly missed and always remembered.

**Anne Newmarch** OAM – a giant in The Arts in South Australia, Anne was well-known for the hundreds of political screen-prints she produced in the 70s and 80s. She was also a pivotal figure in the Adelaide protest arts movement, and a lecturer at the Adelaide School of Arts (1969-2000). Anne also kindly appeared in the 2013 MMS docudrama 'Muriel Matters', included with all copies of the monograph. Our deepest sympathy to her family and friends. She will live on through her enormous body of work.

## Merchandise, Talks & Memberships

Group talks at a COVID trickle – only way is up! Merchandise sales also at a trickle – 2022 will see some new items introduced. **Please remember our merchandise items make great gifts (and you can place an order on-line)!**

Thank you to all members who have already paid their subscriptions – we are catching up with mailing od receipts and apologise for any delay in you receiving yours.

**Please up-date any change to your email or postal addresses as quickly as possible.**

## Diary Dates:

**16 February – (Wednesday) virtual Balloon Commemoration**

**May – (TBC) Caravan Event**

**August – (TBC) AGM**

**October – (TBC) Grille Protest Event**

**December – (TBC) Xmas Nibbles**

**The Muriel Matters Society Inc.**

**PO Box 87, Modbury North SA 5092**

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# The Muriel Matters Society Epistle

No: 58 April 2022



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Hello to All Members and Friends!

2022 is flying – COVID requirements have begun to be relaxed and there have been many other changes since our last Epistle. Please read below about current happenings:

*The Muriel Matters Society Inc.*

## **2022 Caravan Event - Ephemera Display**

**on**

**Sunday, 22 May 2022 – Afternoon Tea, 1.00pm-2.30pm**

**NCW House, 95 South Terrace, Adelaide**

**Light refreshments (tea, coffee cake – self serve) provided –**

**RSVP essential for catering to:**

[murielmatterssociety@gmail.com](mailto:murielmatterssociety@gmail.com)

### **Recent News**

- The result of the recent state election (19 March) meant The MMS had to re-locate on very short notice. HQ has moved from the Florey EO to a rented pod as we wait for alternatives to present themselves. The good news is the pod has quickly become very organised (even cosy!) and no doubt reminiscent of the sort of adaptations our Muriel would have had to make on her adventures. Long term though the novelty will wear off and steps will need to be taken to find a secure permanent home – or another, in conjunction with our toe-hold at NCW House. **Council areas of particular connection/interest to Muriel are Charles Sturt (Bowden), Mitcham/Unley and Pt Adelaide Enfield (historic area/shop dwelling?). Please keep your eyes/ears open for opportunities.** We are exploring options with Adelaide City Council and will also contact the National Trust to see if they can suggest anything.

*The Muriel Matters Society Inc.*

## **Hastings Maquette Subscription Scheme**

### **Limited Number Available - Easy 2 Step Process**

Please register your interest in purchasing a share or multiple shares at \$50.00 each via email: [murielmatterssociety@gmail.com](mailto:murielmatterssociety@gmail.com).

Payment of the allocated share/s can then be made, on confirmation of order, via direct debit to The Society's Account: BSB 065-148 Account 10215167.

- In looking for ideas to cover rental and eventual re-location expenses for the office and collection, and after discussion with other Executive members, I thought I might suggest members consider the idea of 'share' allocations in the second maquette which will need to be shipped to UK soon.

- The maquette has already been purchased for presentation to Hastings Borough Council (HBC), currently involved in their own election, for display in Muriel Matters House or another location of their choice. Jane has kindly offered to ensure delivery as she will be departing for London soon.  
Members wishing to purchase a share or multiple shares, valued at \$50 each (100 shares at \$50 = a total maximum subscription of \$5,000.00) would be acknowledged on a parchment to accompany maquette. This would allow preservation of existing funds and give us some future flexibility for expenses. It's an easy 2 step process – register your interest (by email to [murielmatterssociety@gmail.com](mailto:murielmatterssociety@gmail.com)) for the number of shares you wish to purchase and on receipt of confirmation of order and reference number, transfer payment in your name to The Society by direct debit.  
**Please let me know of your participation by return email – I am keen to get this initiative off the ground and fully subscribed as soon as possible.**
- Steph has also been kind enough to source some exciting new original artwork by Llama McKenzie, which will be on display at NCW House. This may be another fundraiser, giving a lucky member the opportunity to own a limited edition tribute to MM.
- Children's book/s – looking forward to finally getting things underway in the second quarter of 2022.
- Eileen (Vic. Chapter) recently advised of a large collection for sale in one of London's major auction houses, featuring many wonderful items, even some of Muriel! Although we did not purchase anything, we do have some of the images advertised – all well and truly highly priced these days! Any interesting items from our period of interest will always be considered for purchase.
- When remembering ANZAC Day, we think of Muriel's brother Charles, who died at Lone Pine in 1915 and her family's war service – particularly as the first example we found of MM's hand-writing was a Red Cross letter about Charles' death.

### Overseas News

UK visits are again on the agenda. As mentioned, Jane will be travelling to London in May and will present the maquette to HBC – very soon after their elections (similar to our state ones). I hope to be able to organise a suitable event and that Jane will be able to meet most of our MMS (UK) members and friends – especially Muriel's friend Oliver Waldren and others in Hastings, while she is there.

Thanks to Ken Florey (USA) for the latest edition of The Clarion – always a good read.

### Merchandise, Talks & Memberships

Group talks at a COVID trickle – only way is up! Merchandise sales also at a trickle – 2022 will see some new items introduced. **Please remember our merchandise items make great gifts (and you can place an order on-line)!**

Thank you to all members who have already paid their subscriptions – we are catching up with mailing old receipts and apologise for any delay in you receiving yours.

**Please up-date any change to your email or postal addresses as quickly as possible.**

### Diary Dates:

**22 May – Caravan Event/Ephemera Display at NCW House (see invite above)**

**August – (date and details TBC) AGM**

**October – (date and details TBC) Grille Protest Event**

**December – (date and details TBC) Xmas Nibbles**

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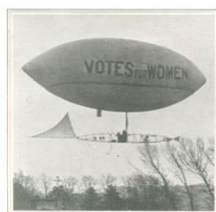
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# **The Muriel Matters** **Society Epistle**

**No: 59 August 2022**



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Hello to All Members and Friends!

Despite the continuing cold weather, there has been a good deal of activity. Please read on about current happenings both here and overseas – and we hope you can join us for our next event:

*The Muriel Matters Society Inc.*

## **2022 Annual General Meeting**

at

**NCW House, 95 South Terrace, Adelaide**

on

**Sunday, 11 September 2022, 2.00pm – 3.00pm**

**A new exhibition on The Battle of Lone Pine (Aug 1915)  
will be on display**

**Any continuing COVID restrictions will be observed**

**Please Note: RSVP (for catering) is essential**

### **Recent News**

- Preparations for the on-again, off-again AGM have been in limbo (for a number of reasons) but the date is now set and it is hoped members will be able to attend and at the same time see the Lone Pine Exhibition. A good many acquisitions have been made recently to round out the items we already hold, associated with Muriel's brother – Charles Adams Matters – and his service and death at Lone Pine, only days after his arrival there. This important battle, though significant and bloody in its own right, is not often talked about as it occurred in the August after the Gallipoli landing. Both events were catastrophic and left an impact still felt to this day.  
I was able to attend the Centenary Commemoration at Lone Pine in 2015, with a SA delegation.
- The Maquette Presentation to the Hastings Borough Council took place on Wednesday 3 August. We are indebted to Jane Lomax-Smith for making the train trip to Hastings (with the maquette in a back pack!) and staying overnight – ably assisted by Tim and Oliver Woolley. Everything went off beautifully and we have had glowing reports of the maquette and Muriel's 'stance'. There is also talk about the need for a full-size statue in the city centre (there has been mention of Wellington Square, where one of Muriel's first meetings took place in July 1908) and raising funds for some public art – it would not be very good if Hastings managed this before us - but they do have access to Heritage Grants we can only dream of!
- Still looking for a suitable shop front-dwelling at Pt Adelaide. The Society needs a toe hold in the tourist part of the area so we can be part of people's Sunday or holiday activities. Please keep your eyes open for any leads.
- Children's book/s – still on the agenda. We get there in the end!



## **Obituary**

We have been advised of the death of Life member Adrienne Slusarczyk on 20 June 2022. Condolences go to her son Carl and his wife Lina and their extended Family. Adrienne is one of Muriel's nieces, something that led to Steph and I visiting her and her husband Stefan and their family on one of our WA trips. They were extremely kind to us and shared some family photos for The Society's use. Their hospitality was second to none and I still remember the beautiful home-made sandwiches and cakes to which we were treated.

We were very lucky to have met her and hear her reminiscences of early Matters Family life.

## **Talks, Merchandise & Memberships**

Requests for group talks have been coming in again lately, so things look like they will begin to pick up in 2023.

Design work on the new 2022 badge has begun and is moving along. Will be ready for end of year purchasing. Other new items will also be available.

**Please remember our merchandise items make great gifts (and you can place an order and pay on-line – free postage)!**

Thank you to all members who have already paid their subscriptions – in line with usual practice, each member will receive of their paid-to date with their Christmas card.

**Please up-date any change to your email or postal addresses as quickly as possible.**

## **Diary Dates:**

**11 September – (Sunday) AGM, opening of The Lone Pine Exhibition**

**October – (TBC) Grille Protest Event**

**December – (TBC) Xmas Nibbles**

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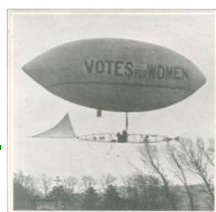
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# **The Muriel Matters Society: Special Epistle**

## **Rescheduled AGM Notice**



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## **2022 Annual General Meeting – New Date**

on

**Sunday, 13 November 2022 – 2.00pm-3.30pm**

at

**NCW House, 95 South Terrace, Adelaide**

*Plus Very Early (!) Xmas Get Together and  
Lone Pine Exhibition will be open*

**RSVP (essential for catering) to [www.murielmatterssociety.com.au](http://www.murielmatterssociety.com.au)**

The last newsletter advised members the AGM would be held in September but due to unforeseen circumstances (some health related), committee members were very thin on the ground and it was though impossible to go ahead.

**Sincere apologies for any inconvenience this has caused - I am sure this forthcoming bumper meeting will more than make up for it!**

**Please up-date any change to your email or postal addresses as quickly as possible.**

**Diary Dates:**

**November 13 – Rescheduled AGM, Lone Pine Exhibition and  
Very Early (!) Xmas Get Together**

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