



TRIBUTE

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FREE PUBLICATION

St Marys & District Historical Society Inc. - Quarterly Newsletter

PO Box 640, ST MARYS NSW 1790 – Street Address - St Marys Corner,
Mamre Rd, St Marys – Parking via 29 Swanston Street.

Email: stmaryshist@gmail.com

‘ Recording & Preserving the Heritage of St Marys ’

The Society’s headquarters opened its doors to the public on Wednesday 1st February 2023 and we are encouraging visitors and groups to come along and view our informative displays.

Men’s Fashion & Accessories Display (c1930s) - With the exception of labour workers or uniformed servicemen, men wore a suit from the moment they got dressed to the moment they returned back home. Suits could be formal or casual depending on the cut, material, and colour, as well as the time of day and occasion they were dressing for. In the 1930s, the athletic body seen on boxers, swimmers, and *Superman* became the ideal male figure. Clothing reflected this new silhouette with extra broad shoulders, thin waists, and tapered wide legs. Everything was big, tall, and surprisingly comfortable, as the looseness of clothing made it easier than ever to work and play. **Men’s 1930s fashion** dictated that all suits needed to have a strong masculine presence. The athletic form with wide shoulders, narrow waist, and full legs was the style of the decade. Suits were cut to add the illusion of both height and width. Jackets were long with wide padded shoulders and wide lapels. The double-breasted suit was especially good at adding width. Both single and double-breasted remained popular throughout the entire decade.



Suit pants fit high on the waist, bulged out over the thigh and knee and tapered into the ankle, usually with a cuff. Pleats at the waistband allowed more fabric to drape down creating a baggy effect. A single pressed line down the centre of the leg (both front and back) added to the height effect. This style was the opposite of today’s skinny suit. Most suits came with a matching **6 button vest**, with or without lapels and four slit pockets. Most were single-breasted vests, but a few still chose the more formal double-breasted waistcoat with two pockets. They were not required to be worn, and typically only were worn by older gentlemen or savvy dressers.

1930s men’s suits colours favoured medium blue, tans, beige, cream, golden browns, and many shades of grey in spring and summer. Autumn and winter enjoyed navy blue, medium brown and dark grey tones. Besides colour, the 1930s man wore suits with distinctive patterns.

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Bold patterns also contributed to width. Large plaids, windowpane, chalk stripes, checks, and herringbone appeared in every colour summer or winter. The difference between '30s patterns and '20s patterns was the overall tone. The 1920s loved clashing colours in their patterns while the 1930s were more subtle with lighter or darker shades of the primary colour. For example, a light grey plaid suit would have medium grey lines. In the 1920s, those lines might have been blue, green or brown.

Ref: vintagedancer.com

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENTS

Guest Speaking – Member Norma Thorburn OAM



March at the Chambers - March was a busy time at the Chambers with several groups attending. We had a wonderful group of 57 young students from Our Lady of the Rosary School.

Although they were young they showed great interest in our displays and asked interesting questions. They were particularly interested in 'Mr. Bennett' wagons.

The teachers were to be commended for the background they were given.

Then we had a group from Blacktown Historical Society who enjoyed our Morning Tea, Talk and Slide Show and the facilities that have been provided to us.

This was followed by a similar visit from Mt. Riverview Seniors. This was another pleasant morning.

We continue to welcome students who are doing projects.

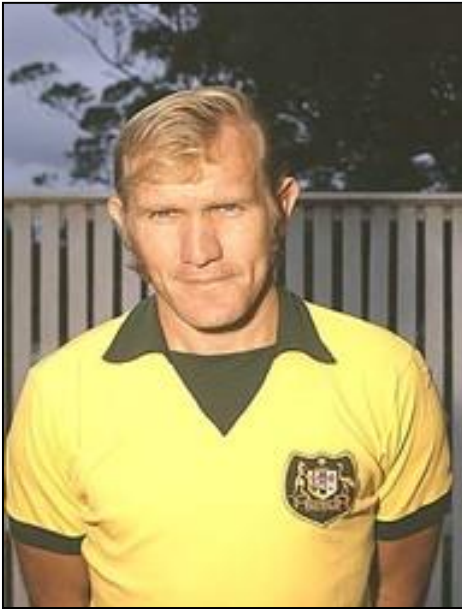
Visitors continue to be surprised at the amount of information we have on hand.

Right - Mt Riverview Seniors welcomed by members Eric Kent, Marie Koen and Robyn Gorman.



Left – Norma and husband Tom operating the slide show.

Photos: Caroline Volkiene



VALE MANFRED SCHAEFER. By Lyn Forde, President/Research Officer & Family Friend.

Manfred died in March this year (2023). The Road to the 1974 World Cup. In 1973 was the year that Australia would be facing World Cup eliminators, so the Australian Soccer Federation arranged for the Bulgarian national side to tour for three games as a warm-up for these matches. The Bulgarians were the first European national teams in Australia since 1969 and provided the Australians with high class opposition from which coach Rasic was able to build up his team. The first game was played midweek in Sydney but still drew a large crowd to the Sports Ground. Manfred dominated media attention for Australia at the 1974 FIFA World Cup in Germany, not only because he was

an excellent defender but because he was competing in the country of his birth. The fact that the Aussies played both East and West Germany also caught the public's attention. In the Sydney Morning Herald in 2003, a reporter wrote that almost three decades later Manfred was invited back for the most prestigious public appearance a former player could make, to help with the draw for the World Cup. He dominated the media coverage of the Socceroos' only World Cup appearance in 1974. Born in former East Germany, Manfred became a resident of Australia from the age of 10. His homecoming was the main point of focus as the world's press reported on the Socceroos' historic campaign that included matches against East and West Germany. He was asked by the world governing body, FIFA, to return to Frankfurt as part of a select group of former players who was to assist then President Sepp Blatter with the draw for the qualifying rounds of the 2006 World Cup to be held in Germany. Manfred admitted he was "blown away" as he digested the significance of becoming the first Australian to be invited to take part in the official draw. He said "It's unbelievable, totally unbelievable and his first reaction was that someone was pulling his leg, his second question was who's paying?. The more he thought about it the more he realised what a big thing it was, and it brought back a lot of memories. Just to be sitting next to some of those people was a huge honour and it came totally out of the blue." He was required to be in Germany for a rehearsal for the ceremony that was broadcast around the world. Asked if he was going to have to buy a new suit, the assistant coach of Parramatta Power said: "I might wear the club suit and give them some exposure." It is the first time the World Cup was hosted by Germany since 1974, when Manfred was a member of the only Australian team to reach the finals. Manfred's German background dominated media coverage of the Socceroos. Two German TV crews travelled to Sydney to produce documentaries in the lead-up to the World Cup, and he had a weekly column in the Hamburg newspaper *Bild Zeitung* before and during the tournament. He returned to Germany for holidays and said that "Every time I go back there is a small story in the local papers, and when people start talking, they usually remember me, but this is something else. After all these years you don't expect something like this and to me personally, nothing will ever beat playing in the World Cup finals, but this was probably the next best thing."

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Manfred's former Socceroo roommate Johnny Warren said "it was a fantastic honour and they absolutely loved Manfred at the time, especially the bit about him being a milkman by night and a footballer during the day, so obviously he hadn't been forgotten and I always remember one of the headlines in the German papers that was a huge compliment about how they would have swapped him for Hans-Jorg Schwarzenbeck. Manfred played all three games for Australia and Gerd Muller was one of the few players he marked who got a goal against him". Manfred retired from playing after helping St George win the NSW grand final a few months after returning home from the World Cup. In 1974 he became a coach in the Australian National League managing over 300 matches between 1977 and 1999 and in 2003 he was assistant coach at Parramatta Power.



The St Marys & District Historical Society meets every 4th Saturday of the month at 1 pm – at the St Marys Precinct "Chambers" Building – Mamre Road, St Marys.

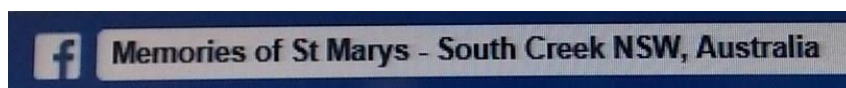
No meetings in January or December
ALL WELCOME

Open to the Public on Wednesdays & Saturdays from 10.00am - 2.00pm
(meeting days till 1.00pm) and by appointment for Groups

Please contact: Lyn Forde: 8840 8771 / Guest Speaker - Norma Thorburn: 9623 2307
Patron of our Society is Kerrie Davies.

Back issues of the "Tribute" can be found on our website at
www.stmaryshistoricalsociety.com.au

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