



## Merewether Historical Society

*"A society aimed at recording memories of the past for the benefit of the next generation."*

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# The Chronicle

February 2022

**Meetings:** Next meeting is **February 8**, 10.00 for morning tea with meeting to begin at 10.30. Venue is the Merewether Bowling Club and we shall be having lunch afterward so hope you can join us. **Government and hospitality venue requirements are that all guests wear masks and are vaccinated.**



**February Birthday Greetings** to Monica Jordan, Joan Salmon, Sharon Nevile and other Februarian members. Wishing you all a really perfect birthday.



**Guest Speaker:** Wal Walker will relate the very interesting history of how D'Arcy Wentworth and Jane Austen had a connection with early Newcastle. Not to be missed!

**Fees** for 2021/22 are now overdue. Cost is \$20 single and \$30 for family. Thank you to those members who have already paid. The Membership Register will be revised at the end of February and non-financial members names removed.

**Bus Trips:** 15 March will see us travel to Marthaville House Arts and Cultural Centre Cessnock, for morning tea and then onto Nightingale Vineyards for a wine tasting and lunch. Cost of \$70 is extremely good value. Marthaville House has a wonderful craft shop so if you have anybody you need to buy presents for in the next few months you will find lots of inspiration here!

**Walkway Llewellyn to Caldwell St:** Many of you will no doubt be aware of a developer's application to Council to alter the development approval for a site that includes this historic walkway. If approved, the public will lose access to this very convenient link between Caldwell St and the updated Llewellyn St shopping strip. Several of our members, the Merewether Bowling Club and individual Merewether residents have contacted the Council to object to this proposal. On behalf of the Club I contacted the new Councillors for Ward 2 who were very concerned and have promised to question the relevant Council staff on the issue.

### Point to Ponder:

The secret to happiness, is lowering your expectations (J. Davis)

President:	Geoff Wright
Secretary:	Sue Kenny
Treasurer:	Greg Struck
Asst Treasurer:	Monica Jordon
Committee	Alison Chapman Laurie Graham Iain Kelso Jan Welsman

Hon. Solicitor:	Nicholas Dan
Hon. Auditor:	Ian Watkins

On 8 June 1859 Newcastle Municipal Council was one of the first local councils created in the State after legislation was passed in 1858. The first Council boundaries covered a small area in the inner city and served a population of 2,400. The first 12 councillors were elected by 350 property owners with James Hannell elected as the first mayor.

The City of Greater Newcastle Council was formed in 1938 by amalgamating small suburban Councils in Wallsend/Plattsburg, Lambton, New Lambton, Waratah, Wickham, Hamilton, Carrington, Adamstown, Merewether and Stockton with Newcastle. The former mayor of Waratah, Arthur Griffiths was elected mayor of Greater Newcastle.

Newcastle was declared a Lord Mayoralty in 1948 and Ald H. D. Quinlan became the City's first Lord Mayor and in 1974 Joy Cummings was elected as the first female Lord Mayor in Newcastle and Australia.

In 1961 the Royal College of Arms in London granted the Council what is now the official seal and coat of arms of the City of Newcastle and is proudly displayed on the wall of the previous Council chambers in City Hall. The motto *Enterprise* signifies the spirit of the citizens of Newcastle, with the design features of a ship, seagulls, lighthouse, sand, fleece, coal and a wheel, reflecting its trade and industry.



In 1993 an N-shaped monochrome design, based around the Civic Park fountain, was adopted as the City's logo and was seen on all official Council stationery and publications.



Recently Newcastle City Council has unveiled a colourful new corporate logo, designed to present a more contemporary face to the community and has also introduced a name change to City of Newcastle. The ripple effect of the design represents water and the vivid colours used capture the beauty of Newcastle's natural environment.



The new logo has been rolled out across council assets such as Newcastle Museum, Newcastle Art Gallery, Civic Theatre, Fort Scratchley, Blackbutt Reserve and Foreshore Park as well as on uniforms, letterheads and the council's website.

The NSW Electoral Commission has finalised the count for the local government elections held on December 4.

Newcastle Lord Mayor Nuatali Nelmes was re-elected for a third consecutive term.

Seven new councillors and five returning councillors will join her to form the 13 person council. Of the 13 elected representatives, a majority of seven will represent Newcastle Labor, three Liberals, two Greens, and one Independent.

Returning councillors include Declan Clausen, Carol Duncan, John Church, Dr John Mackenzie, and Peta Winney-Baartz.

They will be joined by new councillors Dr Elizabeth Adamczyk, Jenny Barrie, Charlotte McCabe, Callum Pull, Deahna Richardson, Katrina Wark and Margaret Woo

**Merewether Historical Society**  
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**Hamilton/Merewether/Adamstown RSL**