



A NEW HOME

Recently installed by Wollongong City Council in the laneway west of Wollongong City Library



A project which you may have seen previously that adorned the outside of Wollongong Art Gallery.

These photographs, taken by renowned artist Mayu Kanamori, recorded present day images of people who migrated to the city and who have helped shape and characterise its community.

These panels can also be seen on the MHP Website.

IMAGES AND PERMISSIONS DATABASE PROJECT

The Wollongong City Council Cultural Grants Program has provided funding for the development of an Access database that will be a repository for the hundreds of images MHP currently hold plus the permission documentation that relates to that image. CleverLink, a Corrimal based web development and graphic design business, was engaged to develop the database as well as sponsoring the project by contributing funds.

This project may not sound terribly exciting but once completed it will actually assist to make the information we collect more accessible to a wide range of people. At the moment if anyone wants to use images or information MHP have to manually sift through stacks of paper to find the image as well as the corresponding permission of use form. When it is stored in a database we will be able to search quickly to retrieve the information. This project is managed by Louise Thom and assisted by Fidelia Pontarolo.

Cleverlink is presently organising the data and will shortly provide examples.

MHP MEETINGS

The MHP Committee meets the first Thursday of the month (February-December) at 5.30 pm, Library Meeting Room Ground Floor Wollongong City Council Administration Building, Burelli Street, Wollongong. Members and other interested people or groups are always welcome.

(Venue for meetings provided through the Wollongong City Council Multicultural Services)

MHP COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chairman
Franca Facci
Treasurer
Mendo Trajcevski
Secretary
Peter Bestman
Committee:
Gregor Cullen
Giulia Bonacina
Ludwik Ihnat
Eva Castle
Louise Thom
Zofia Laba
Fidelia Pontarolo
Marzia Zochil

Migration Heritage Project
PO Box 1589
South Coast Mail Centre
NSW 2521
Ph: (02) 4227 2834
Email: mhp@1earth.net

Don't forget to visit our website

www.mhpillawarra.com

GENERATIONS PROJECT

A new exhibition by the Migration Heritage Project



Polish Easter eggs with Russian Samovar and crystal vase (Z. Laba collection, photo E. Castle)

Collections of Hopes and Dreams: objects and stories connecting generations of migrants is a new exhibition by the MHP developed for the Wollongong City Gallery. It will open on 19 November 2011 until 4 March 2012, in the Mann-Tatlow Gallery.

The exhibition explores the lives of people from Europe united by the experience of World War 2 and its aftermath. Objects associated with their lives since they left their homeland and came to Wollongong, will be used to explore their hopes and dreams.

The Migration Heritage Project recognises that people from European countries living in Wollongong are among the oldest living post-World War 2 migrants. This 'group' is slowly disappearing from our community— a cultural and historical link for their descendants and cultural groups, and source of historical information about Wollongong. No consistent practice exists to collect and maintain archives, collections and public records of their lives or contributions to communal life.

This exhibition explores the identities and lives of some of these people, united by the experience of great upheavals in their cultural and spiritual home half a century ago. Competence, strength of will, compassion, skill and craft, self-education and creativity are some of the qualities emerging from their stories

THE WOLLONGONG CITY COUNCIL HERITAGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The MHP nominated Fidelia Pontarolo to be considered for membership of the Wollongong City Council Heritage Advisory Committee and it was great to see that the Council recommended Fidelia's membership. Fidelia's role on the Heritage Advisory Committee presents an opportunity to contribute information on aspects of migrant heritage in Wollongong.

One of the key pieces of work commissioned by Council was a thematic study of the history of Wollongong. With Fidelia's assistance, the MHP had input into the study meeting with Dr Terry Kass, the consultant tasked with the job of preparing the study, and preparing a formal written response to the first draft. The "Thematic History of Wollongong" with its recommendations has now been published by council and is available on the council website.

POWERHOUSE MUSEUM INTERNSHIP

As was reported last year, Eva Castle carried out an internship at the Powerhouse Museum that focused on researching the lives of working women in the Illawarra in the clothing, textile and footwear industries.

Eva presented her research at the AGM and since that time has continued to finalise the material so it can be officially handed over to the MHP and the Local Studies Library of WCC.

Photo: Eva Castle presenting her research at the 2009 MHP AGM



HERITAGE STORY POCKET BOOK AND EBOOK PUBLICATIONS

The Royal Australian Historical Society Local History Research and Publication Grants program has provided a small amount of funding to help the MHP produce an innovative Heritage Story pocket book series. The series will be available in print and eBook format.

The mini book series will snapshot a series of heritage stories that document and profile migrant life in the Illawarra. The series will be used to promote awareness of Migrant Heritage in the local community and contribute to the regions historical and cultural assets. We hope this innovative series will be a way of introducing new readers and supporters to Migration Heritage. The first mini book will explore the Staminastory as told by the TCF workers and owners of the iconic Aussie clothing brands such as Stamina Trousers, Elasta-strap and Crusader Cloth. The heritage significance of the Citys clothing factory hub around Gladstone Avenue which housed some of Wollongongs most successful garment manufacturers such as L.E Isaacs, Silknit and Cormar

The project builds on Eva Castles researched into Illawarras Textile, Clothing and Footware Industry which had its origins as part of her internship with the Power House Museum. Gregor Cullen from the University of Wollongong, Faculty of Creative Arts will work with Eva to design, produce, and develop the mini book series.

The project is close to completion with development and testing of the interactive version still a work progress. The print version will be released as a limited short run edition.



Tea Break On The Grass At The Silknit Factory, Gladstone Ave Wollongong 1964.
(Olga Romano is second from the left front)

Powerhouse Museum Strategic Support

As part of its Regional Services Program, the Powerhouse Museum has accepted our expression of interest for support to develop strategies to formalise and manage the MHP resources and collections and to develop policies and procedures to facilitate access to these resources.

A talk will be given to us mid to later this year.

THE MIGRATION PUBLIC ART PROJECT



The MHP continues to be represented on the Migration Public Art Project (MPAP) Steering Committee. The MPAP committee is scoping the production of an art work that will reflect and acknowledge the contribution made by migrants to the City. The MHP was consulted on the concepts and location of the art work. This is an exciting project that the MHP are pleased is progressing.

The MPAP committee is currently seeking sponsorship and donations and is planning a number of fund raising activities. It is also engaged with Wollongong City Council in the development of an artist brief that will be distributed nationally for expressions of interest and identification of a preferred site.

MIGRATION TO WOLLONGONG PUBLICATION

Meredith Walker is currently finalising this publication with support from the NSW Migration Heritage Centre at the Power House Museum. We are greatly indebted to Meredith for the work she has carried out to complete the manuscript and we look forward to completing the design and publication. We know the publication will be used and referenced by people interested in migration history in the Illawarra and across Australia. It is intended to not only document the impact that migrants and refugees have made in the Illawarra, but also to act as a thematic guide for people wanting to explore and research the heritage of migrants in the Illawarra and Australia.

Thank you for your continued support



MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Joining Fee:	Individual \$5.00	Pensioners \$2.00	Organisations \$10.00
Membership & Annual Fee:	Individual \$10.00	Pensioners \$5.00	Organisations \$10.00

Joining & Membership fees payable within fourteen days of receipt of advice of membership approval.

Annual fees payable by 30 June of each year.

The Secretary
Migration Heritage Project Inc.
PO Box 1589 South Coast Mail Centre NSW 2521
Email: mhp@1earth.net
www.mhpillawarra.com