

A Little bit of history

Abbotsford Cove was once home to "the largest chocolate factory in the southern hemisphere" and today reflects the original layout in its design. Abbotsford House was built between 1877 and 1878 for Dr (later Sir) Arthur Renwick (1837-1908) at a cost of £11,000. Arthur Renwick, born in Scotland, came to Australia in July 1841. The house was named after Abbotsford in Scotland, the home of author Sir Walter Scott. In turn Abbotsford House gave the suburb of Abbotsford its name.



The foreshore park showcased female workers from the factory as they strutted their physical culture exercises.

In 1904 Renwick was forced to sell his property, which was subdivided and offered for sale by auction on 2 October 1905. Peter McIntosh purchased the property in 1906 and sold it the following year to Albert Edward Grace, draper and one of the founders of Grace Bros.



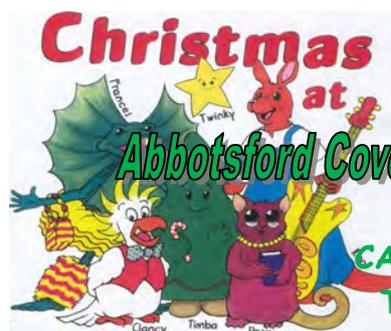
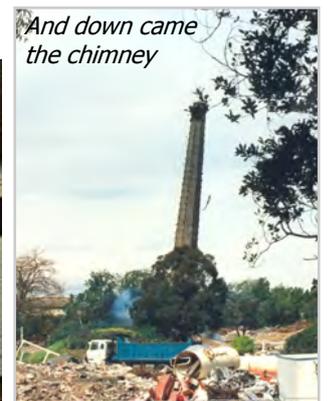
In 1926 the grounds and riverfront of the factory site were used to shoot scenes for the Australian film "*For the Term of His Natural Life*"

Albert Grace and his family lived at Abbotsford House for 10 years (1907 to 1917) on the large property which later became the Nestlé factory. The property included orchards, sports fields and a boat shed. It was during this time the pavilion was built.

The production of chocolates began in the pavilion in 1918 and Abbotsford House was used as the factory's onsite administrative office. More buildings were constructed, wrapping around three sides of the house. A narrow gauge tramway ran from the factory's private jetty taking materials, delivered by tugboats, up to the boilers and storerooms.



The Nestlé's Australia, Abbotsford factory closed on 18 December 1991 and after the demolition of the old factory, the grounds were redeveloped for medium density private housing. Abbotsford House has been preserved as well as the pavilion. The area is now known as Abbotsford Cove.



Annual Children's Christmas Party
Sunday December 23
Commencing at 3:30pm
under the fig tree.
Santa will arrive by boat around
5:15pm.

Refer to notice boards or
contact Jan Coulter on 9712
3858 for more information.

The Will to Live, The Courage to Die

On Easter Sunday 2010, long-term Abbotsford Cove resident, Tracey Roberts' life changed forever. Tracey was in the process of planning a trip to Bali with her much loved uncle when she answered the phone and was told he had been in a serious surfing accident.

Peter Bilsborough was paralysed from the neck down and was on life support at the Royal North Shore Hospital. Over the next four months, Tracey would help Peter confront his catastrophic injury and support his courageous decision to have his life support switched off.

Tracey has penned the story of Peter's life in the book *The Will to Live, The Courage to Die*, which describes her larrikin uncle in good and bad times and highlights the need for better wheelchair services within our hospitals.

"He was just hoping... something positive would come out of this," Tracey said.

Tracey is now raising funds, in memory of her uncle, to upgrade and maintain Royal North Shore Hospital's wheelchairs. Her mission is to raise \$20,000 for a chin controlled wheelchair for the hospital.



You can help by purchasing *The Will to Live, The Courage to Die* (buy at Dymocks, Collins) or go to www.traceyroberts.net.

A fundraiser dinner will be held at Daltone House Sydney on 3 May 2013 (see the above mentioned website for more information).

Alternatively, you can donate to the **Rotary Club of Five Dock Wheelchair Project** (St George Bank, BSB: 112 879, account number: 411 875 434). Please refer to the 'Peter Bilsborough wheelchair project' when making donations.



Cove Resident Runner Up in Local Council Awards

Elizabeth Duff from Endeavour received the runner up award for *Most Impressive Balcony or Small Space* after entering the *City of Canada Bay Garden Competition - Colour the Bay!*

Judged by two independent professional horticulture experts, Elizabeth was hosted at a champagne reception by the Mayor at the Council Chambers on Melbourne Cup Day.



Where have all those wonderful Christmas lights gone? Let's all light up this year and bring the glow of Christmas to the Cove.



Wishing all residents a safe and happy Christmas and a healthy and prosperous New Year.

Many thanks to all our silent helpers, people who clean up the foreshore, replace the lights, lacquer the park benches and all the other voluntary work too numerous to mention.

*Norm Gilmore
Chairperson ACCA*

Aqua Fitness Classes

Monday and Wednesday mornings, **8:50am** No 1 heated pool, Blackwall Point Rd *unless advised otherwise* by email. Contact Jan on 9712 3858



Bootcamp: Friday at 8:45am

Mainly for swimmers who want to challenge themselves through swimming drills/exercises. For more information email jancoulter@primus.com.au.

Maintenance Issues

Notice any community property around the Cove needing attention? Then email your request to:

maintenance@abbotsfordcove.org

This could refer to pools, tennis courts, pathways, street lights, walkways and lights, community hall, gym equipment or graffiti.

Gardening

For all garden related matters please email: garden@abbotsfordcove.org

Clubhouse bookings

Contact Amanda on 9219 4111 or email Amanda@whelanproperty.com.au

Secret Men's Business

First Monday of each month in the Pavilion commencing at 10am.

Social Tennis

Each Monday, from 1- 3pm on Court 1, opposite the "Pavilion".

Next ACCA Meeting

**Thursday 29 November
7:00pm at the ACCA Clubhouse**

Note from the editor

If you have items for future editions or know of interesting events please contact the editor on 9712 7419 or email newsletter@abbotsfordcove.org

This newsletter is sponsored by:

**Abbotsford Cove
Real Estate**

**Thinking of selling or buying at
Abbotsford Cove**

Contact Mel Abboud on 9712 2500
Or call in to The Pavilion and have a chat.

Check the website:
www.abbotsfordcoverestate.com.au
*No one knows the Abbotsford Cove market better than
Mel Abboud*

* Please note all aqua fitness classes currently held in Pool 5 during refurbishment of Pool 1.