

Boronia Templar Hall

Set your mind on the Kingdom of God



our Australian Templar Heritage

presented by the

Friends of the Boronia Hall

The story of a group of volunteers who worked with Heritage Victoria and the Temple Society Australia, whose help in the production of this collection is gratefully acknowledged.

The Boronia Templar Hall, built with donations and volunteer labour in 1957 and listed on the Register of Heritage Victoria in 2003 as culturally significant.

A Picture Calendar

promoting greater awareness of the historic and social significance of the first community hall built by the Templers in Australia.

July - June

2004/5

"The Lord has had his grace shine upon our journey..."

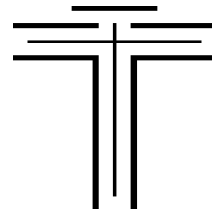
Peter Lange, President of the Temple Society, used this passage from the old Testament in his opening address at the "Farewell Fest" on 28 February 2004, quoting former President Jon Hoffmann's remarks on visiting the new Boronia community for the first time. "...With this quotation from the Bible he tried to express that, when you look back on your life, on its many turns and changes, you suddenly realize that all the different events and happenings are in some unaccountable way meaningful and essential for your life. The early Templers of Australia had just lost their settlements in Palestine; they had encountered hatred and enmity in their immediate surroundings; they had experienced deportation and internment. The tireless endeavour by Templers to establish Christian communities seemed to have come to an end."

"But then there came Boronia! Was it a new beginning? Or a new focus on a continuous journey, a turning point in a long period of disasters; a refocus giving life a new meaning. The first Templer community Hall built in Australia, in a combined effort here in Boronia in 1957 gave evidence of a new way of thinking.

As we now bid farewell to this building that served us so well over the last forty-five years let us look at it again, not as an end to our endeavours, but as a shift in focus to the future of the Temple Society. On behalf of all Templers I am now going to strike the bell of this community hall for the last time in this building. May the bell always remind us of what we are striving for..."



A Calendar Souvenir of our struggle to gain recognition for the Templer Boronia Hall



Boronia Templer Hall
and Bowling Alley,
West elevation.



Here is a collection of relevant details and information extracted from the volumes that came to light in the two years the sale of the property was debated amongst Templers, prior to the deciding vote on 22 November 2003.

To set the scene and put it in perspective, here are extracts from the Victorian Heritage appraisal: *The Boronia Templer Church Hall has been assessed against the Criteria for Assessment of Cultural Heritage Significance as adopted by the Heritage Council on 6 March 1997 pursuant to Section 8 (c) and 8 (2) of the Heritage Act 1995.*

“It is the first Templer Church Hall built in Australia. It was funded and built entirely through the efforts of the Templer community itself...”

“It represents the commitment made by the Templer Community to its new host-country through considerable adversity-“
“ It represents the first prominent physical expression of this small, non-mainstream religious community in Australia...”



Heritage Officer in the Bowling Alley 1/2/2002

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<h1>July 2004</h1>						
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11 Ba Service & SS 15:15, community discussion	12	13 Be Ladies 13:30 Afternoon	14 Sy Ladies 12:00 Afternoon	15	16	17
18 AH Service 10:00 Ba Heritage 14:00 Presentation	19	20 Ba-Bo Ladies 13:30 Afternoon	21	22	23	24
25 Be Service & SS 10:15 Sy Service 15:00	26	27	28	29	30	31

Reflecting on the History of the Boronia Hall



The plans were completed in June 1955. The Boronia Templer residents raised the required finances with levies amongst themselves. They contributed their labour in the evenings and on week-ends and, with the help of a few expert craftsmen and under the guidance of the architect of the building, Erich Weller, produced a finished product both functional and to be proud of.

Founding Members planning the 9 Pin Bowling Alley. Back row: Otto Löbert, Christian Herrmann, Gottlob Löbert, Walter Kübler, Roland Bauder, Rudi Imberger, Frieder Bulach, Erich Bulach; Centre: Franz Messner, Karl Trefz, Wilhelm Sawatzky, Hans Klink, Bruno Venus, Günter Haar; Front: Otto Venus, Walter Hahn, Erich Weller, Helmut Bacher, Kurt Haar.

A brief history of the Boronia Hall

After months of negotiating, organising funding, acquiring permits and clearing the land, the foundation was laid and building of the hall began early in 1956.

All concrete block bricks were hand-made in tin-lined wooden forms by volunteer workers on site.



Historic Significance of the Site

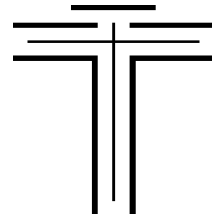
“The Church Hall ... is an example of the Post-War Ecclesiastical Style and has undergone minimal change. The building is modest and unpretentious, and is distinguished by its lack of ornamentation and the unusual belfry. The austere aesthetic epitomises the values of the Templer Community.”

“It has symbolic importance to the Templer Community in the creation of a sense of place and belonging in a newly adopted country, which helped to maintain spiritual and social cohesion.”

“The single-lane skittle alley is a tangible representation of the rich and varied social life that brought together several generations of the Templer community.”

“The site is considered by the current authors to be of historical and social significance and of limited architectural interest to the State of Victoria. Its significance has been eloquently summarised:

“The property symbolises the quiet, but courageous achievements of a ... group [of people], and how they re-established themselves here in Victoria after the war through considerable adversity.” *Hermes ID: 12297*



Boronia Templer Hall
West elevation



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<h1>August 2004</h1>						
1 Ba Service 10:15 (In German)	2	3	4	5	6	7
8 Ba Service & SS 15:15, C/Aft'noon SA Service 15:00	9	10 Be Ladies 13:30 Afternoon	11 Sy Ladies 12:00 Afternoon	12	13 Ba Elders' 19:30 Discussion	14 Be Working bee 09:00
15 AH Service 10:00 Ba AGM 14:00	16	17 Ba-Bo Ladies 13:30 Afternoon	18	19	20	21
22 Be Service 10:15 followed by AGM Sy Service 15:00	23	24	25	26	27	28
29 Religious Seminar Day	30	31				

History of the Boronia Hall (Church) Building site

- 1875 Crown allotment 57b (40 acres), Parish of Scoresby, was purchased by George Wilkes on 15 September for £40.
- 1934 Crown allotment 57b was subdivided for Mr Sid Sutton, who ran a market garden/nursery on part of the property
- 1947 The property was purchased from Mr Sutton by F. Aberle and W. Wagner, in the "spirit of community life rather than a commercial venture"
- 1952 The property was subdivided on 24 July (Plan of Subdivision No 23857) into 30 building block of varying sizes.
- 1954 Lots 27 and 28 of Crown Allotment 57 were purchased by Rosa Dorothea Wied on 12 October
- 1955 Erich Weller produced the design for the Hall, with separate toilet block. The plan was amended in November to include the Stage on the South side
- 1956 Willi Herrmann, Otto Löbert, Frieder Bulach and Rudolf Höfer became joint proprietors of the site on 7 May. Erich Weller takes over as Chairman
- 1957 The Boronia Hall (as the building was customarily referred to) was officially opened on 7 September, the first Templer community structure here.
- 1959 The newly formed Templer Tennis Club constructs the first tennis court. The Bowling Alley is added to the rear of the Hall by the Kegelklub.
- 1961 The bell tower is added to the building and the first Service is held in May in the finished Hall with the bell donated by the TGD Stuttgart.

Mrs. Erna Imberger wrote a poem for the 30 Anniversary celebration on 6 September 1987, which says in part:

"...So wurde es eine recht stattliche Halle. Ein Treffpunkt in Boronia für alle; und in den vergangenen 30 Jahren duften wir wirklich oftmals erfahren wie nützlich und nötig der Bau gewesen, für Feiern, für Säle, für Singen und Lesen..."

The cement rendering and the fibro-cement roofing completed the construction phase of the project.

Heini Imbergers
The Toilet Block
Stage Extension
note the smooth concrete rendering



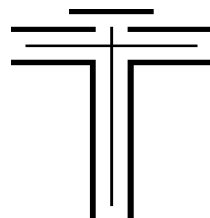
Submissions are on Record supporting the Heritage listing of the Boronia Templer Hall from:

- Gudrun Ansorge
- Hiltrud Barfus
- Anneliese & Marie-Anne Beilharz
- Horst & Irene Blaich
- Irene Bouzo
- Erika English
- Anna Eppinger
- M & R Felicetti
- Erika Herrmann (and others)
- Geraldine Hughes
- Hennig Imberger
- Alfred & Ursula Klink
- Fritz & Olga Kroh
- Manfred Löbert
- Herbert & Irmgard Löbert
- Mrs G Meyer
- Helen Mueller
- Wilhelm & Helga Sawatzky
- Resi Schwarzbauer
- Mr & Mrs Trefz
- Friends of Boronia Templer Hall

- the original Nomination for inclusion in the Victorian Heritage Register was made by Bernd Löbert on 24 August 2001.

One objection was lodged, by the Temple Society Australia (through its solicitors Tolhurst, Druce & Emmerson), and a Hearing on file Her/2001/001360 was scheduled for 14 February 2003.

The Heritage Council resolved to list the Church Hall (Lot 28) on its Victorian Register. It did not include the tennis courts (Lot 27) but recommended that both Lots should be protected through the local Council Planning Scheme.



Boronia Templer Hall
West elevation



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<h1>September 2004</h1>						
			1	2	3	4
5 Be Service 10:15 Family Day	6	7	8 Sy Ladies 12:00 Afternoon	9	10	11 Ba Community Dinner Dance 19:30
12	13	14 Be Ladies 13:30 Afternoon	15	16	17	18 Sy Community Picnic
19 AH Service 10:00 Ba Heritage 14:00 Be Evensong 5pm	20	21 Ba-Bo Ladies 13:30 Afternoon	22	23	24	25
26 Sy Service 15:00	27	28	29	30		

The Opening Ceremony of the Boronia Hall on 7 September 1957

Report of the official Opening in the local newspaper at the time.

Opening of Boronia community hall

German and Australian accents mingled at a function to mark the official opening of a new hall in Boronia.

This neat, attractive, modern hall in Wadi Street, in a typical Australian setting, was built entirely by the voluntary labour of German settlers — many of them are now naturalised Australians.

This is the Templar Community Hall and represents two years of solid voluntary labour by the members of the Templar Community in Boronia. It is the first Templar Hall to be opened in Australia.

Many leading citizens were among the audience at the official opening. They included the Minister of Agriculture, Mr. C. L. Chandler, Sir George Knox, the Hon. and Mrs. R. R. Rawson, Cr. and Mrs. Allan Chandler, Cr. and Mrs. Guy Turner, and Cr. and Mrs. A. H. Kleinert.

The hall was officially opened by Dr. R. Hoffmann, of Melbourne, the head of the Templar Society in Australia.

Welcoming the guests, he said that members of the Community were grateful to the Government and people of Australia who had made them welcome in their community.

GREAT STRESS

"We realise that an intensive immigration programme put the old inhabitants to a great deal of stress and embarrassment particularly in the field of human

relations.

"It is to the great credit of the people of Australia that they have shown themselves friendly and helpful and sympathetic to migrants in general and to those in particular who, despite their shortcomings, earnestly try to become good residents and citizens of the Commonwealth," Dr. Hoffmann said.

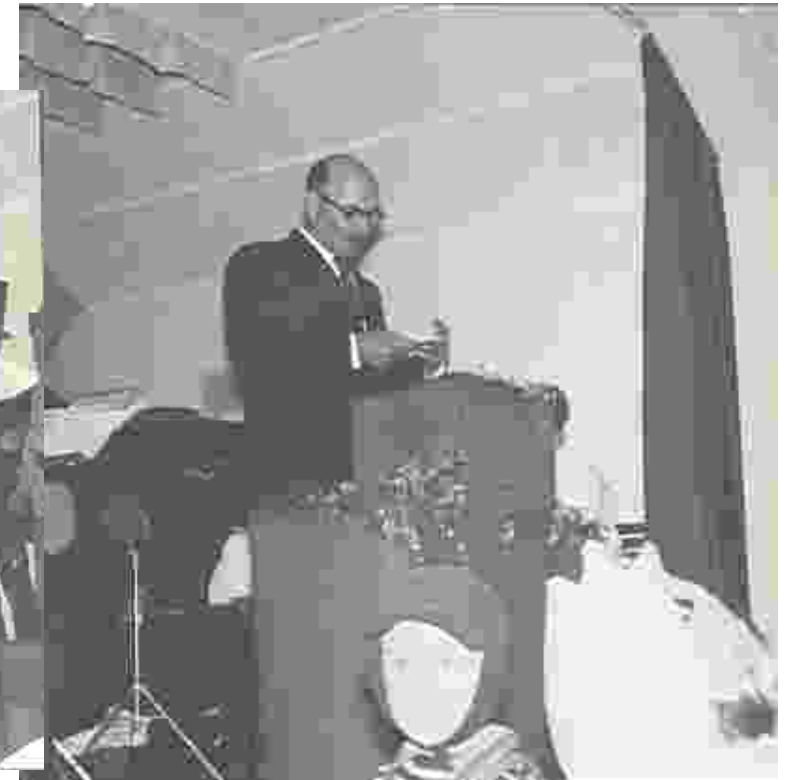
The Templar Community numbers about 1300 in Australia the majority living in Victoria. There are 170 in Boronia.

The community originally established a settlement in Palestine in the 1860's. They migrated to Australia after the war.

Musical items were presented by violinist Richard Hornung and a choir of members of the Community.

After the opening ceremony guests enjoyed afternoon tea and chatted with their hosts.

The hall was much admired. Simply designed, it is painted in light modern colours, has bright curtains at the windows, and was made even brighter by bowls of spring flowers.



Erich Weller

EINWEIHUNGSFEIER

DER

GEMEINDE-HALLE BORONIA

SAMSTAG, DEN 7. SEPTEMBER 1957

PROGRAMM

GOTTES-DIENST 3.00 UHR

5. BLASKAPELLE THEMATIKLANG
6. TREFFPUNKT MOZART STRASSE
7. VOLKS LIEDER (GEM. CHOR)
8. DR. GOTTFRIED WILL ZOM THEATER
9. BLASKAPELLE THEMATIK-KLANG
10. KAFFEE-KLATSCH AUF TONBAND
11. SCHATTEN-SPIELE AUS W. BUSCHI

PAUSE MIT KAFFEE UND KUCHEN

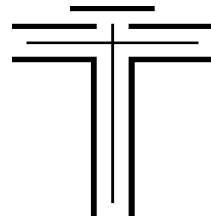
ANSPRACHE DES VORSITZENDEN

1. ERÖFFNUNGSMARSCHE
2. HOERSPIEL: SCHWABEN SUCHEM DAS GELOBTE LAND
3. HIRTENCHOR SCHUBERT
4. DIE SCHILDBUERGER

KARTOFFEL-SALAT UND WUERSTCHEN

TANZ

The Friends of Boronia Templer Hall



Boronia Templer Hall
West elevation



At the TSA Annual General Meeting in the Bayswater Hall on 9/9/2001 an inspection report on the condition of the Boronia Hall was presented. The report had been prepared by the consultants "Archicentre Limited" and listed all items needing attention on the building. The sum of \$100,000 was given as a minimum requirement to bring the building up to current standards. The report, dated 14 June 2001, opens with the sentence "...we trust the report will assist you to negotiate a better purchase price..." In the light of the many faults enumerated, the Regional Council closed the facility as unsafe, and unanimously recommended the sale of the property. Following a debate on the motion to sell, the Annual General Meeting 9 September 2001 endorsed in a secret ballot the Council's recommendation to sell.

When six months later nothing had happened, a few concerned people got together to try and work out an alternate solution to the sale of the Hall. By exploring the building's heritage potential it was hoped to create a meaningful proposal and give the Hall a new lease on life.. The inaugural meeting of the Friends of Boronia Hall took place on 13 March 2002 in the lunch room of the Bowling Alley. The Hall itself was locked up. 18 people took part in that meeting. Discussions centred on the options still open to prevent the loss of the Boronia Hall to the Templers (and its possible destruction). A petition developed by Bernd Löbert rallied support for the conservation of the Boronia Hall.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
<h1>October 2004</h1>						1	2
3 Be TSA AGA	4	5	6	7	8	9 TTHA 09:00 Working Bee	
10 Ba Service 10:15, SS & Presentation SA Service 14:00	11	12 Be Ladies 13:30 Afternoon	13 Sy Ladies 12:00 Afternoon	14	15	16	
17 AH Service 10:00 Ba Heritage 14:00	18	19 Ba-Bo Ladies 13:30 Afternoon	20	21	22	23	
24 Be Service 15:15 Com A'noon -EM Sy Service 15:00	25	26	27	28	29	30	
31 CV Central 11:00 Meeting in Strath Creek							

Additions increase the “User-friendliness of the Hall”

Barely a year after the completion of the Hall the Boronia people elected to build themselves a bowling alley. Erich Weller again provided the design for a facility attached to the rear of the Boronia Hall and supervised the construction.

It was to be a traditional 9 pin “Kegelbahn”, a popular and entertaining game familiar to all Templers. Despite individual hardship and tough times, each member promised the sum of 28 pounds towards the project. Within a year the project was completed. Walter Hahn was the first chairman of the new Boronia Bowling Club.

In 1959 the Templer Tennis Club joined the Ferntree Gully District Tennis Association and started adding a tennis court to the Boronia Hall. The first court was built completely by volunteers and on a shoestring budget to local standards. Wilhelm Sawatzky recalls picking up the sand with Herbert Löbert’s truck from the Lysterfield tip. The Club self-financed all its operations with barbeques, bottle drives and catering for picnics. The second court was done eventually with proper material, scrounged from various sources by the members. This was the heyday of tournament tennis, with junior coaching starting in 1962.

Plans for a bell tower or, to give it its proper name, the “Proposed Addition of a Belfry”, were completed by Erich Weller in November 1960. A postcard of the finished Hall was issued in 1959 in an effort to raise money for the addition of a bell tower to the building. Boronia’s sister community in Stuttgart offered to donate a new bell for the Boronia Hall, if it could be accommodated.

Here is a picture of the postcard. Note, the brick fence is still missing at this stage, and there is no footpath nor kerb and channel. The plans for the fence were completed and submitted to Council in April 1962.



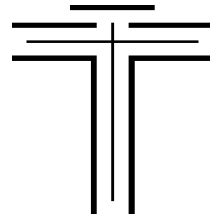
Aims of the Friends Group

When in October 1995 two hitherto separate Templer Knox Communities decided to merge and become the Bayswater-Boronia community, a plan was produced to utilise the Boronia property in a way that allowed a cost-neutral retention of the Hall as a Templer Heritage. This proposal still exists.

At the inaugural meeting of the new community a TSA Elder, Helmut Ruff, asked the assembly not to let all the efforts and sacrifices of the founders of the original communities be forgotten. Ways should be found, Mr Ruff said, to preserve as much as possible of that heritage to pass on to future generations. That was seven years ago.

Mindful of this challenge the Friends Group, after lengthy discussions, set itself the following aims:

- Conservation of the Boronia Templer Hall as an important Heritage Item in the history of the emerging young TSA.
- Enhance the cultural significance of the building in the wider community by promoting greater public awareness of the contribution migrants have made (and still make) to Australian society.
- To provide a basis for like-minded people to express their belief in the need for the conservation of our cultural heritage.
- To look for other meaningful uses for the building if the TSA feels it no longer has any need for the facility. Commercial interests, such as the U3A, may have to be considered to cover annual expenses.
- Form a committee of management to organise the activities of the Group and to encourage public support.



Boronia Templer Hall
West elevation



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<h1>November 2004</h1>						
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9 Be Ladies 13:30 Afternoon	10 Sy Ladies 12:00 Afternoon	11	12	13 Be Working Bee 09:00
14 AH Service 10:00 Tatura Service at 11:00	15	16 Ba-Bo Ladies 13:30 Afternoon	17	18	19	20
21 Ba Service 10:15 Community Picnic Ba Heritage 14:00	22	23	24	25	26	27 Sy Community Bazaar 10:30
28 Be Service 10:15 Founder's Day	29	30				

In 1961 the tower was added to the building to house a bell donated by our sister community in Germany

The Story of the Bell

Play performed by the children at the Bayswater-Boronia Amalgamation Fest on 26 October 1995.

Concordia

In a far-away place, in 1959, in a shop of the firm Heinrich Kurtz in Stuttgart, Germany, workers are busy melting a pot of bell metal:

Four parts of copper, one part of tin ready the mould, then cast it in.

The time is right, let's break the mould.
The metal shines bright, the inscription is bold.
The clay stays behind as the shavings fly,
Tuning the bell to the double-stroke "a".

The hum is the deepest, the soulful tone,
the third minor and fifth give brightness alone.

You know this bell is going to Australia.
To the Templers in Boronia.
That's a long way. Who will carry it?
This bell weighs 58 kilograms!

The bell was silent, the journey long.
They came to Boronia to hear the bell's song.

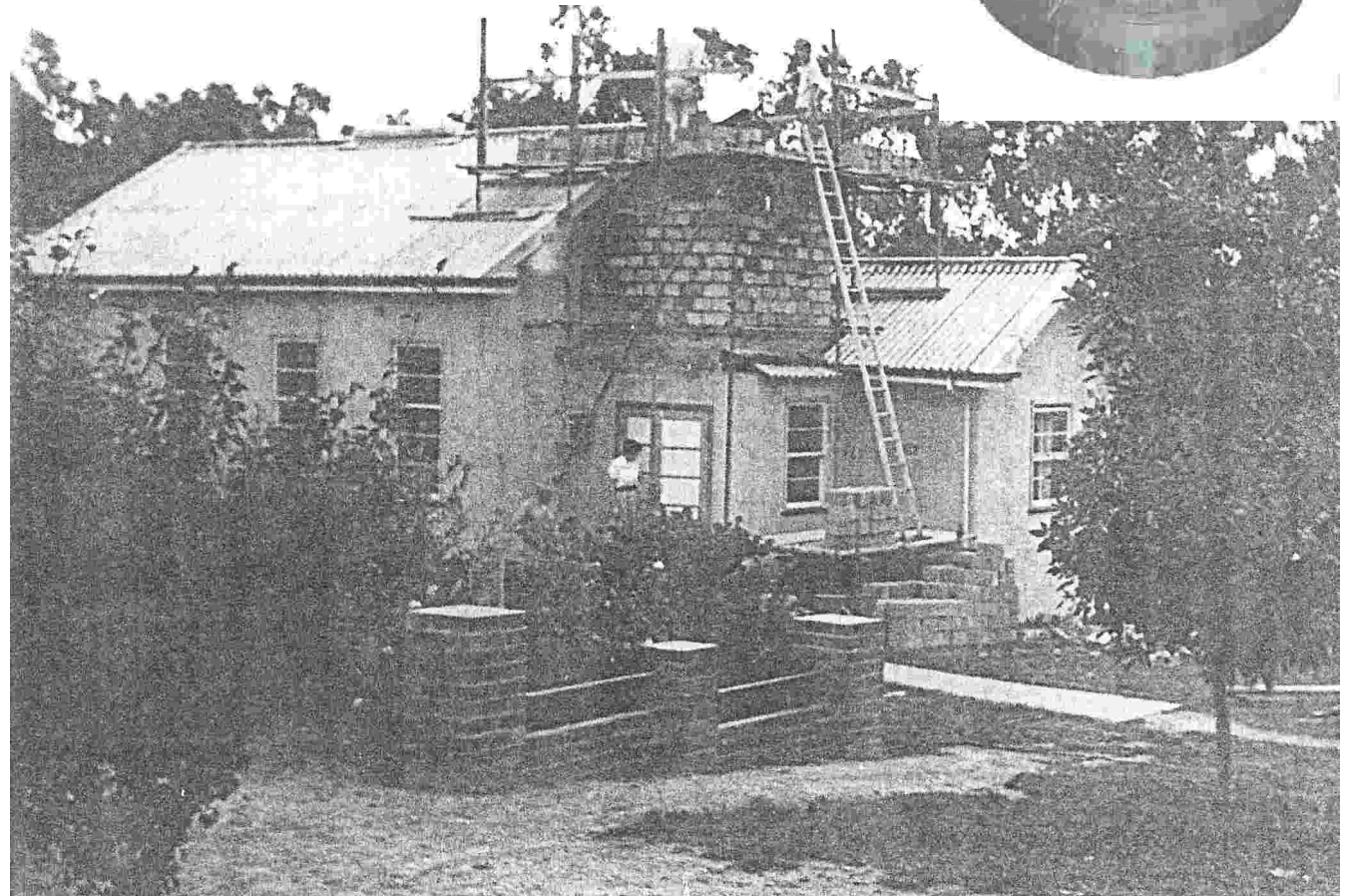
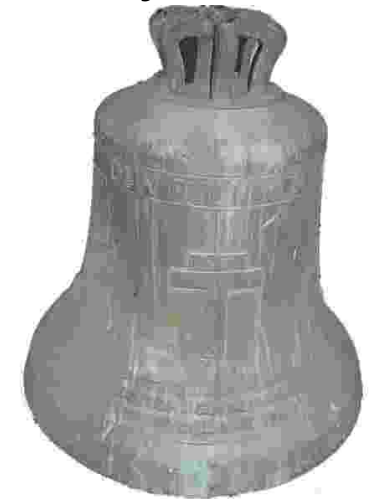
Will you climb the belfry? I'll hold the rope.
Up the steep ladder, the bell slowly rose.
Be careful! Secure it, thank God,
the framework did hold.

So peace and joy her song her name
Concordia to Boronia came.

The Bell was produced by the firm Heinrich Kurtz in Stuttgart in 1959. Members of the Temple Society were present at the casting ceremony on 18 December 1959. A memorable report of the occasion exists in the "Treffpunkt Mozartstrasse" of the TGD January 1960.

Embossed on the bell is the symbolic "INRI T Cross" of the TS, framed by the inscription: DEIN REICH KOMME + DER TEMPELGEMEINDE BORONIA + VON DER TEMPELGESELLSCHAFT IN + DEUTSCHLAND 1959.

The bell was first rung in Boronia on May 1961, and then every Sunday morning by volunteer bell ringers (mainly the Imberger family). It is now stored in the new Temple Society Community Chapel in Bayswater, waiting to be heard again.



AK

A visionary Boronia Centre

A proposal was put forward to develop the site into a Heritage Centre of the Temple Society.

The Centre would be self-funded through commercial leasing arrangements and/or income from retirement units on the corner block.

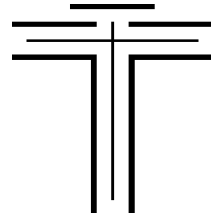
In a comprehensive development plan covering the whole block, three or four housing units (depending on the number of bedrooms) could be sited discretely to blend into a Cultural Heritage Centre and Memorial Garden setting.

A Body Corporate would be formed to manage the Centre, and income from the sale of the home units above the construction costs would provide a base for Hall maintenance.

Commercial leasing of the hall itself was considered, and the potential customers researched with local Estate Agents. While this would have generated sufficient income to cover ongoing maintenance, the preferred option was to develop the Building into a Templer Heritage Centre. By working with similar organisations, such as the Knox Historical Society, the Tatura Centre and the Melbourne Museum, a significant input of Templer history could be foreseen.

Concept plans were developed by Manfred Löbert, architect, and Robert Barfus with the help of his son in-law. These have been published and circulated in the *Templer Record*.

The City of Knox provided valuable guidance and support to these plans.



Boronia Templer Hall
West elevation



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<h1>December 2004</h1>						
			1	2	3	4
					Ba Tennis Club Sausage Sizzle 18:30	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Be Ladies Advent 14:30; Sy Service 15:00 Found. Day		Ba-Bo Ladies Advent 20:00	Sy Ladies 12:00 Afternoon			
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
AH Service 10:00 SA Service 14:00		Be Ladies 13:30 Afternoon				Ba Community Christmas 16:30 Candle-Carols
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Sy Christmas Service 16:00						Christmas Day Ba Service 10:15 Be Service 10:15
26	27	28	29	30	31	
					New Year's Eve Ba Service 18:30 Be Service 19:30	

The Building served the Boronia Community and the Temple Society well for forty years.

Religious Services, Sunday School, German School, Meetings, Celebrations and Parties were held there, as well as weddings and funerals. Throughout it all the hall lived up to its motto, displayed in bold letters above the stage for all to see:

“So lasset uns Gutes tun an Jedermann...” →

“Let us do good unto all...”

One of the first marriages to be celebrated there was Richard and Briar Hornung (née Metcalf), July 1959. Here are two more:

Herbert and Irmgard Löbert (née Kübler) on 7 March 1960



Alfred and Ursula Klink (née Kübler) on 20 January 1962

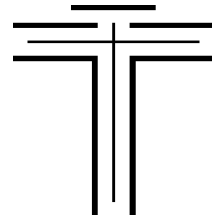


80th birthday celebrations for Walter Kübler in the Boronia Hall

Towards Greater Awareness

The Friends Group, on top of its regular, fortnightly meetings, stayed in touch with the Regional Council through special meetings, organised by arrangement with members of the Council. The first one was quite informal in a restaurant in Carlton and on the surface appeared to be most productive. A 10 year moratorium on the sale of Boronia would give the Group scope to develop the ideas for a Heritage Centre. Unfortunately the consensus reached at that meeting was later reversed by a full sitting of the Regional Council.

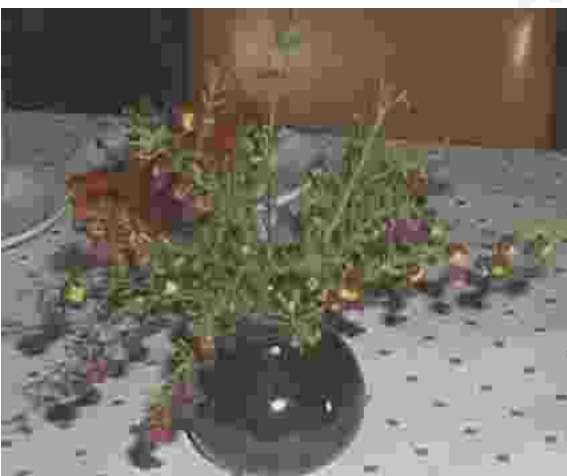
In two subsequent meetings in Bentleigh the Friends Group managed to gain official recognition as a TSA interest group. A jointly funded project between the Regional Council and the Friends Group, proposed by Mr Jürgen Gronau (who volunteered to pay half the cost) allowed essential repair to the kitchen and stage of the Hall to proceed. The total cost was approximately \$8,000. This made the use of the building possible again, and some Cultural Heritage functions were immediately organised by the Friends Group, to promote greater awareness of the potential the Boronia property offered in this respect.



Boronia Templer Hall
West elevation



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<h1>January 2005</h1>						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					



A Boronia Heritage Fest

Let's celebrate 50 years of Boronia Templer history together on Saturday 8th September in the Bayswater Hall at 2:30pm.

- Can you remember when Hazelwood Road was just a dirt track?
- When Wattletree Road stopped at the creek?
- When Dorset Road had the only asphalt surface and even that was hardly more than 10ft wide. Remember Dobson's orchards?
- When the first stone was laid for the Boronia Hall?
- When was the bell fitted?
- Who was the first couple to be married?
- When did the bowling club start?
- Who built the Tennis Court?



With contributions from many people, with pictures and anecdotes of the early times in Boronia, with photo slides and projector and with a computer presentation we will hop-skip-and-jump through the past fifty years of Boronia's evolution. From the time the first Templers settled there, built the hall and formed a community, we will follow their progress to the present, see what became of the houses, the people and the area and watch the Boronia Level Crossing go underground. There will be posters of things that where, of things that might have been and of things that could be. We live in exciting times.

Coffee will be served and cake, or you may bring your own choice of refreshments along. The afternoon is expected to close around 5pm. We hope you will come and join in the collecting of reminiscences that make up our Boronia Heritage. Everyone is welcome.

Saturday 8 September in the Bayswater Hall from 2:30 to 5pm

We look forward to see you there



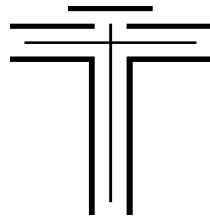
for more information call on Otto Löbert, Olga Kroh or Alfred and Ursula Klink on 5967 4201



Cultural Heritage Presentations

Between September and November 2003 several cultural - heritage programs were presented in the Boronia Hall

Heritage presentations about the Templar history here in Australia and in Palestine alternated with Cultural and Musical events.



Boronia Templer Hall
West elevation



Helmut Glenk, Manfred Haering, Charlotte Lämmle-Ruff and Irene Blaich looking at Heritage Artefacts

Our thanks go to sisters Geraldine and Juliette Hughes for their moving musical presentations. It was indeed the cultural highlight of the series.



Anna Eppinger presenting flowers to the singers after the performance

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<h1>February 2005</h1>						
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28					

The Templer Boronia Hall is located on the corner of Wadi Street and Wattletree Roads in Boronia.



Next to the Blind Creek Reserve and the Bike Path it is conveniently located for access. The name-shield is a tree trunk made by the Templer Bastelgruppe.





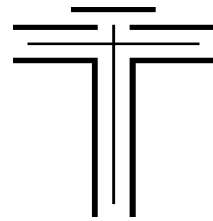
Victorian Minister for Cultural affairs, Mr. Pandazopoulos, on 4-10-03 congratulates Manfred Löbert on the valuable Cultural and Heritage work being done by the Friends' Group.



Dr Jürgen Gronau and Hanno Wennagel in Boronia



Charlotte Lämmle-Ruff with her Heritage Memorabilia



Boronia Templer Hall
West elevation



Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

March 2005

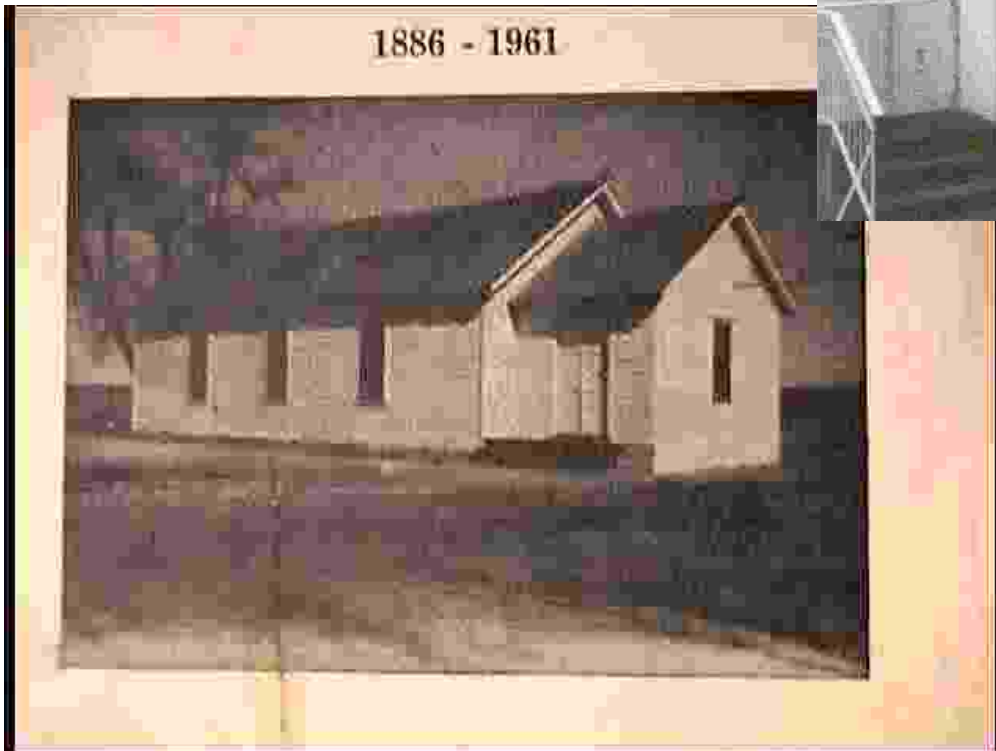
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

Bayswater- Boronia Amalgamation

Following the amalgamation of the two communities on 13 August 1995, the use of the Boronia Hall decreased rapidly. The Bayswater Hall, with its modern kitchen, separate function rooms and ample parking facilities became the preferred venue for most Templer functions and activities.

The original purpose of the Boronia Hall, as a focus point for community life, gradually disappeared and there seemed little purpose in doing more than minimal maintenance. The Tennis and Bowling Clubs were the only people still using it on a regular basis. The future for the Hall looked bleak, unless a new use, a new meaning could be found for the facility.

Danny Goldman, studying Templer Architecture in Israel, was the first to notice the striking resemblance in the structure of the Boronia Templer Hall to the old Gypsum Templer Hall in Kansas.



Dr. Goldman came to Australia in 2001 on a visit to study the evolution of Templer architecture from its early beginning in Palestine. He has since become a good friend in our new cause for the Boronia building: to look after our Templer Heritage. A copy of his doctoral thesis is now in the TS archives. Following the 2001 Annual General Meeting of the TSA, in which the Regional Council's proposal to sell the property was accepted by the members, a few people formed themselves into a group for the retention and preservation of the property for its heritage value to the Society. The group adopted the name of **Friends of the Boronia Templer Hall**. Its aim was to raise public awareness of the potential value to the Temple Society in having its first community structure in Australia declared publicly as a culturally significant heritage item. It would be a link reaching out to the wider community and the place could become a heritage centre for the area.

The Templer Community Church in Gypsum (formerly Tempelfeld) in the USA

The Minister and Anne Eckstein MP talking with Robert Barfus at a heritage function in the Boronia Hall on 4-10-2003.

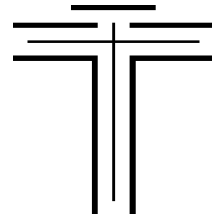


The Friends Group is grateful for the encouragement it received from Local and State Government Departments in promoting greater cultural and heritage awareness in the community.

While the initial aims of the Group with regard to the Boronia Community property were not achieved in the end, the profile of Templers and Templer history has been raised in the process and the heritage quest has now become a legitimate activity.

A lot of thought and work has gone into the Boronia Project and the committee of the Group should be congratulated for the progress they made against tremendous odds.

In the final analysis at the meeting on 22 November 2003 they lost by the slimmest of margins, a mere 6 votes out of 402.



Boronia Templer Hall
West elevation



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<h1>April 2005</h1>						
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

**PROPOSALS FOR A POSSIBLE FUTURE
(A preferred future?) for the Property**

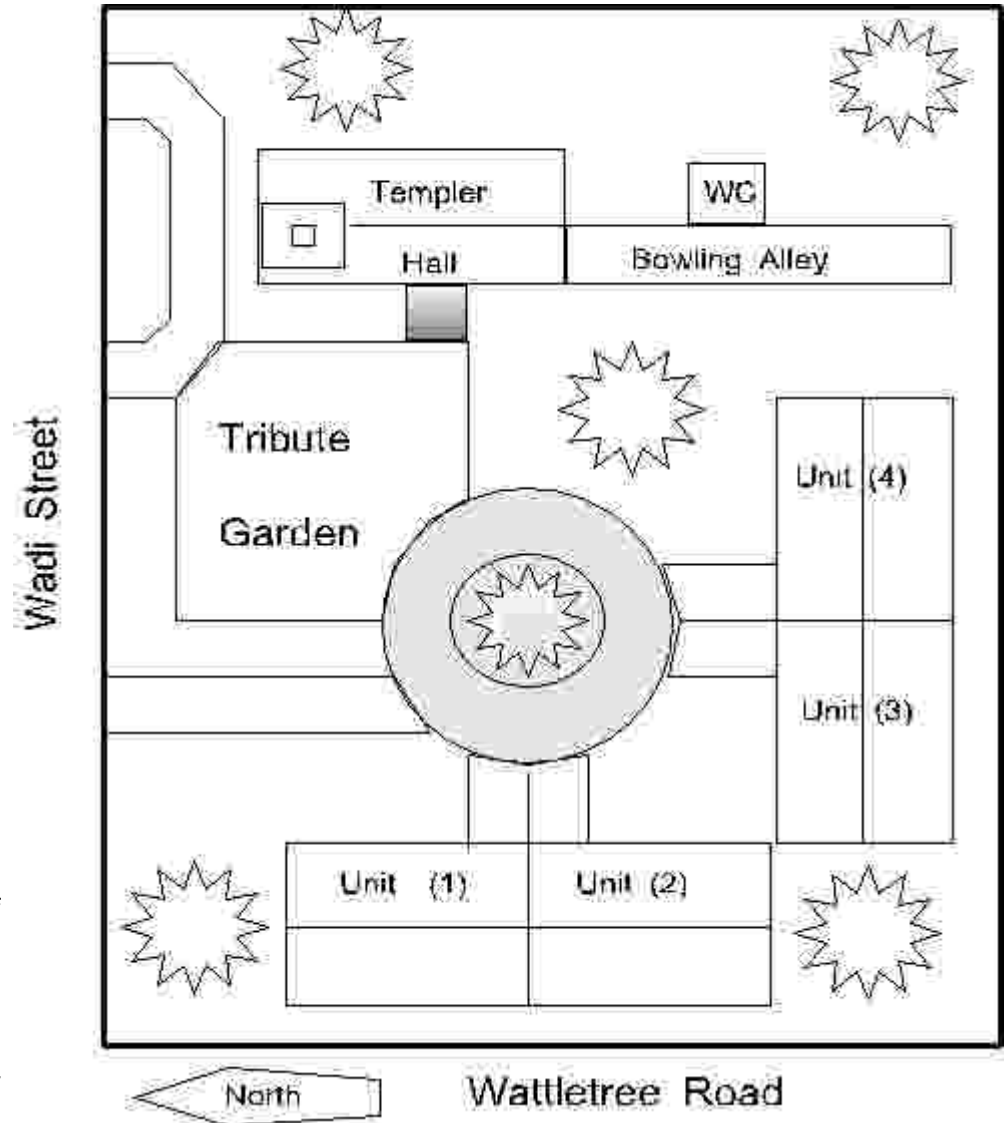
1. The Temple Society to retain ownership of the property and develop it according to the plan alongside.
2. Part of the proceeds from sale of the strata titled residences could be assigned for refurbishment of the hall.
3. The Temple Society, as the owner, could determine the future use of the hall and common land, taking the wishes of the membership into account, making sure that it was compatible with the use of the remainder of the property and cost neutral. Three broad options are being explored:
 - a. lease the hall commercially with the rent set at a level to ensure that annual recurrent costs are covered.
 - b. make the hall available for community hire thereby giving Templers a continuing access to the hall, with the possibility that total hiring charges generated may not fully cover annual recurrent costs.
 - c. develop the hall into a heritage center used for the display of memorabilia of Templer history and local area heritage.

Feedback on the views and ideas outlined in this brochure is invited.

Early Proposal for the Boronia Hall Development.

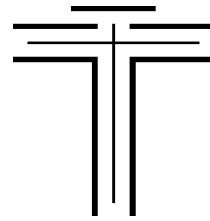
INCORPORATING IDEAS FOR:

- A. Heritage Center with
 - a. Parking facilities
 - b. Bowling Alley
- B. Tribute Garden with provision for:
 - a. memorial display
 - b. exhibitions
- C. Four 1 + 1/2-bedroom self-contained units
 - a. Strata Title
 - b. Own garage
 - c. Court access
 - d. Body Corporate management.
- D. Units to be of a design sympathetic with the heritage theme of the historic Church Hall and the Tribute Garden.
- E. Management of the Hall could be part of the Tenancy agreement.
- F. Revenue from the sale and / or income from leases to be used for the upkeep of the Hall.

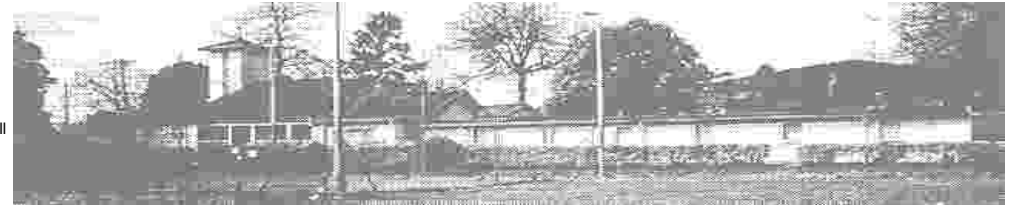


Phrases worth remembering

Here is a selection of quotes from the various speeches and the vast correspondence covering the two year period:



Boronia Templer Hall
West elevation



The Boronia Hall has the potential to become a local heritage centre, with its historic and ethnic-cultural background of migrants and their contributions to the development of the local area.

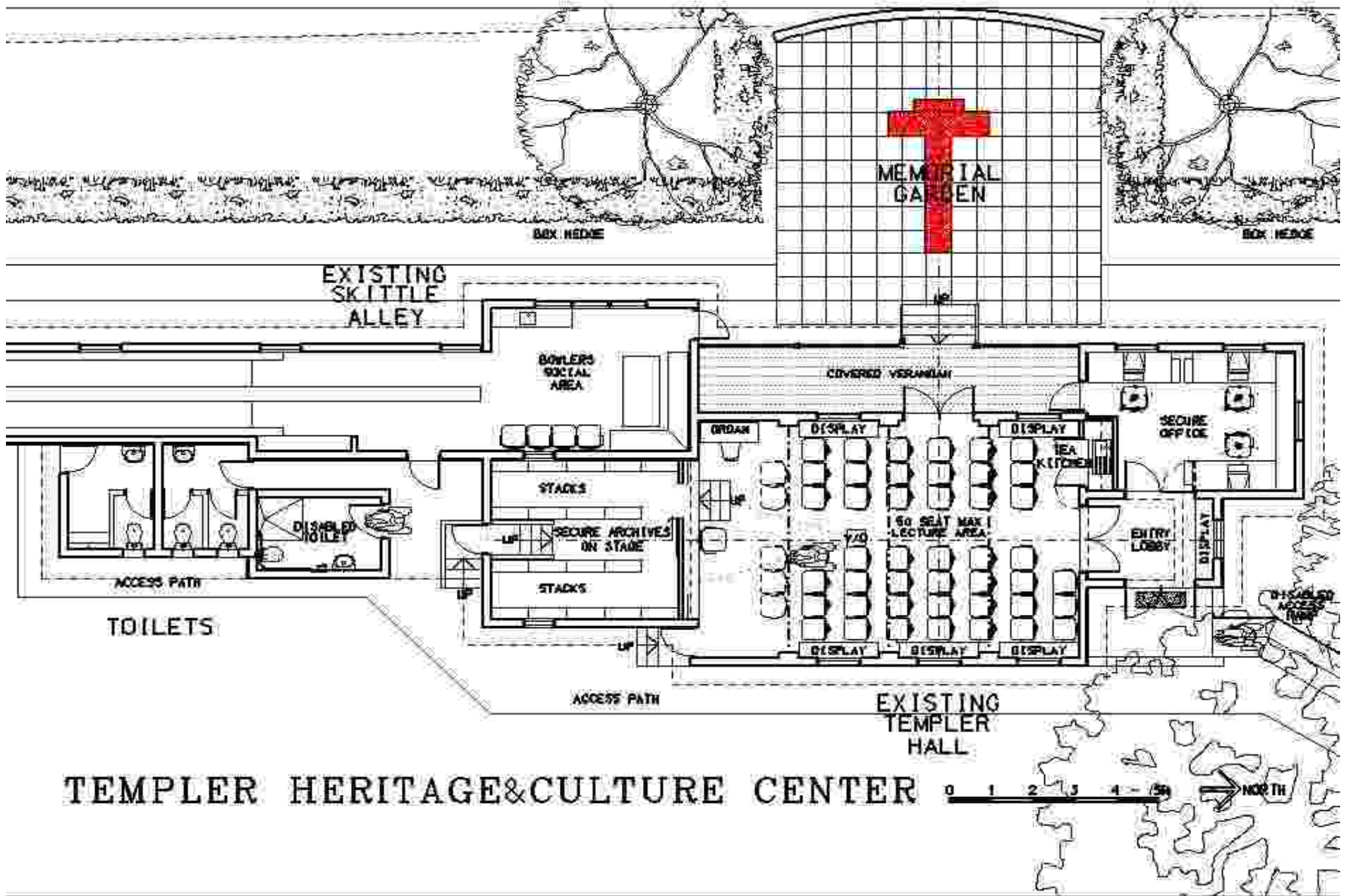
...a colourful chapter on the gradual integration of the Temple Society into the Australian community; a momentous step from Tatura's barbed wire environment to a free and self-sustaining culture, from migrant to citizen, from a group of individuals to a Templer community.

The Boronia Hall proved to be the founding stone on which the community spirit of the new Temple Society Australia was rebuilt.

For six generations Templers have moved or been moved so often that they have lost the feeling for heritage. Their historic highlights of the past 150 years are the traumatic deportations and re-locations across the four corners of the globe.

Heritage is a living force within and around us, guiding our present into the future. By our attitude to heritage we identify ourselves, and are identified by others.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<h1>May 2005</h1>						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

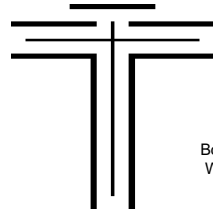


TEMLER HERITAGE & CULTURE CENTER

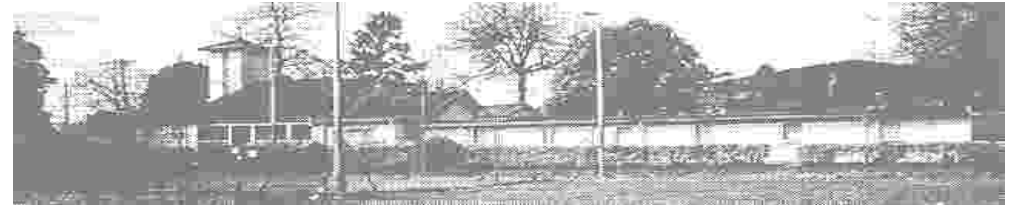
One Last Look

The auction took place on 11 April, 11am.

“...all the different events and happenings are in some unaccountable way meaningful and essential for your life.”



Boronia Templer Hall
West elevation



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<h1>June 2005</h1>						
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

The TEMPLE SOCIETY can be reached on

In Australia:

Temple Society Australia
152 Tucker Road
Bentleigh, Victoria 3204
Australia.

Telephone 613 9557 6713

Facsimile 03 9557 7943

e-mail tsa@datafast.net.au

and website: www.templers.org

In Germany:

Tempelgesellschaft in Deutschland e. V
Felix Dahn Strasse 39,
70597 Stuttgart-Degerloch,
Germany.

Telephone 49 -711 76 2672

Facsimile 711 765 5619

e-mail info@tgdst.

and website: www.tempelgesellschaft.de.

The Temple Society is an independent religious organisation that sees every living person as a temple in which God's spirit dwells (1 Cor. 3:16). It is free of restrictive creeds, dogma or specific articles of faith.

This Calendar was produced by Alfred and Ursula Klink in June 2004. We gratefully acknowledge proof-reading by Herta Uhlherr and Erika English.

FURTHER READING:

The Temple Society and its Settlements in the Holy Land

published in 1996 by
Temple Society Australia ,
ISBN 0 9597489 4 6.
(An English translation of Part 1
of *Occident und Orient* published
by Christoph Hoffmann in 1875) .

The Holy Land Called

The Story of the Temple Society,
published in 1991 by
Temple Society Australia ,
ISBN 0 9597489 3 8.
(An English translation of
Uns rief das Heilige Land
Die Tempelgesellschaft im Wandel der Zeit
by Dr. Paul Sauer, published in 1985) .

The Temple Society

A brief historical introduction,
published in 1987 by
Temple Society Australia,
ISBN 0 9597489 2 X.
(An English translation of a lecture given
by Dr. Paul Sauer in Germany in 1984)

The Temple Society

An overview
published in 1986 by
Temple Society Australia ISBN 0 9597489 1 1

Templer Handbook

(An English translation, undertaken by Temple
Society Australia, of *Templer Handbuch*
published by Peter Lange in 1992)