

POSTSCRIPT

Eve Cohen died on Friday, 8th April, 2005, aged 89 years.

Writing in a Church newsletter, Brian Gallie said -

VALE EVE COHEN

In front of me is an old 1909 photograph of 24 Glenmore Rd. Upstairs on the verandah sits an old gentleman, bald head, with lots of whiskers and three women. When Eve looked at the photo she immediately recognised 'Biddy' standing in the middle, but a further search of the faces made her gasp and realise she was looking at her mother seated at the other end.

Now Eve arrived six years after 1909, following her mother's marriage to Edward Cohen. They then moved to a weatherboard house in Glen St. to raise their only daughter, and following the death of her parents Eve continued to live there until she moved to a retirement village in 1984. My first meeting with Eve came right after her return from China which had been the last leg of her three year sojourn overseas. A slide evening was held and from then on Eve took over! Ladies Guild, Parish Council, Fund Raising - all came under her care.

Not long after that I announced my engagement to Bobby so off went Eve to Hofnungs to rganize a wedding present which was so typical of her rapid response to whatever presented itself, despite her busy schedule of hospital visiting. Election Days were a firm favourite with Eve; she would have us all selling plants, cakes books etc. with most of the plants having been nurtured in Eve's backyard. Of course you had to be careful to keep an eye on your own belongings because they were just as likely be sold as well. Jim Wall had his \$100 chef's knife sold for \$5 and

Bobby's cardigan met a similar fate. On one of these occasions I had one of my lads at the office print up some flash labels for my pots of marmalade, so when Eve read that the 'fruit was grown in the lush pastures of Goodhope Lane' she really struggled with what to say as she pictured the dreary little lane she knew so very well.

Apart from Church matters, Eve was always relating anecdotes about people at her Bridge Club or, wider afield, her experiences cleaning up the 'sick and injured' at Maroubra when she used to be in charge of the St. John's Ambulance Station out there. 'Some days the floor would be covered in blood' she would say, which all sounded too gory to believe but having lived near her for the past thirty years I've learnt to never doubt her as she was always at the coal face of whatever occurred—and God bless her for being so.

- - - - -

Eve Thermuthis Cohen

—about the name 'Thermuthis'

Although the Bible never records this name, the Jewish historian Josephus writing in the first century does. He states: "Pharaoh's daughter, Thermuthis, was walking along the river bank. Seeing a basket floating by, she called to her swimmers to retrieve it for her. When her servants came back with the basket, she was overjoyed to see the beautiful little infant inside. Thermuthis gave him the name Moses, which in Egyptian means 'saved from the water'. Having no children of her own, she adopted him as her own son".

Thermuthis sounds like the royal name Thutmose or Thutmosis, hence also the name 'Moses'.

[Eve's mother's name was Thermuthis Huntingdon, while her father's full name was Edward Samuel Cohen.]

The electronic version of "Paddington"

Late in 2005, a question arose during a Parish Council meeting concerning an historic point about St. George's Church, Paddington. My response was that the answer would surely be found in Eve Cohen's book. A search of the Parish office found a few copies of her book and the question was quickly resolved.

Realising that there were so few copies of this book available, and knowing that I would have much time over the summer of 2005/6, I resolved to re-create it in electronic form.

There is a saying "People in glass houses should not throw stones", and, coupled with the fact that the best way to proof-read a book is to type it, meant some problems would arise in re-typing the book. There are some inconsistencies which I would dearly wished to have raised with Eve but now can't. For example, some of the additions in sterling currency just don't add up! Was this a mistake in typing or some slip in research? Should I now correct it - or leave it as it was originally cast? I took the view that I would transcribe Eve's manuscript as originally typed and then hope that no further typographical errors on my part were made.

There is no doubt that Eve Cohen and St. George's Church, Paddington are inseparable. The recording of the history of the first 100 years of her church is a true labour of love. It has been an honour to record her book in this form of media - a mode which would have probably amazed Eve - nevertheless I am grateful for the opportunity to have done so.

There is a push to name the eastern half of the 'new' church building, being the hall, as the "Eve Cohen Hall". This will be renewed and, hopefully, achieved during 2006 so that her name will forever remain indelibly imprinted as part of St. George's Church, Paddington.

Bruce Howe
3rd March, 2006