

**Newsletter of the Professional Historians' Association (NSW)**

**No. 228 January–February 2008**

# PHANFARE



**PHA NSW**



***Phanfare* is the newsletter of the Professional Historians Association (NSW) Inc**

Published six times a year

Annual subscription:

Free download from [www.phansw.org.au](http://www.phansw.org.au)

Hardcopy: \$38.50

Articles, reviews, commentaries, letters and notices are welcome.

Copy should be received by 6<sup>th</sup> of the first month of each issue (or telephone for late copy) Please email copy or supply on disk with hard copy attached.

**Contact**

*Phanfare*

GPO Box 2437

Sydney 2001

**Enquiries** Ruth Banfield, [phanfare@phansw.org.au](mailto:phanfare@phansw.org.au)

**Phanfare 2007-08 is produced by the following editorial collectives:**

**Jan-Feb & July-Aug:** Roslyn Burge, Mark Dunn, Shirley Fitzgerald, Lisa Murray

**Mar-Apr & Sept-Oct:** Rosemary Broomham, Rosemary Kerr, Christa Ludlow, Terri McCormack

**May-June & Nov-Dec:** Ruth Banfield, Cathy Dunn, Terry Kass, Katherine Knight, Carol Liston, Karen Schamberger

***Disclaimer***

Except for official announcements the Professional Historians Association (NSW) Inc accepts no responsibility for expressions of opinion contained in this publication. The views expressed in articles, commentaries and letters are the personal views and opinions of the authors.

Copyright of this publication: PHA (NSW) Inc

Copyright of articles and commentaries: the respective authors

ISSN 0816-3774

**PHA (NSW) contacts** see Directory at back of issue

## Contents

President's Page	4
Sorry Day	5
Professional Development: University Archives	6
Old Sydney Burial Ground	6
Sails to Satellites	8
Politics and Power: Blighs Sydney Rebellion 1808	9
Sydney Pubs: Liquor, larrikins & the law	10
Callen Park: Once More!	11
History of Medicine Library	12
STATE RECORDS' COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE	13
History Council of NSW	14
Wanted: The Nation's Missing Newspapers	15
What's On	16
PHA Directory	19

**Cover Image:** Wally Weekes Balfour Hotel corner King & Elizabeth Street, Sydney, 1928 (Source: City of Sydney Council Archives)

This edition of *Phanfare* has been prepared by Roslyn Burge, Mark Dunn, Shirley Fitzgerald, Lisa Murray

## President's Page

Like musicians, historians need to practice their skills constantly in order to perform at their best. This is particularly important for our less experienced members, or those who only do occasional historical research. *Phanfare* provides a medium where you can refine your writing technique before an audience of your peers who will always be supportive.

The three Editorial Collectives who produce this magazine every two months are always looking for contributions that present a fresh point of view. You may want to describe a current or recent project on which were engaged, perhaps pointing to the joys and frustrations that you experienced. Perhaps there is a book you have read or an exhibition that you have seen that stimulated and excited (or even bored) you. Tell us about it. You could try a more abstract piece about some aspect of historiography, or simply explain what you believe makes good history. Then you can always be controversial, giving us your opinions on current events with a historical twist – the so-called “History Wars” for example. Because *Phanfare* is now published electronically, the Editors also like to see pictures, maps or other illustrations if these are your preferred means of communication.

To start you off, why not write a letter to the Editors on some subject that you are preoccupied with at present. This may lead to an exchange of correspondence over several issues. It may even provoke a debate amongst PHA members. Here is a topic on which you might like to comment: “Do professional historians undervalue themselves?”

This question is prompted by several members who have reported on the difficulty they sometimes experience in actually being paid for doing small research jobs. Prospective clients are dismayed that we even ask for fees. They say “but it’s only my family history” or “it’s my mum’s birthday next week”, or “just send it to me when you get a chance”. Some say they will only pay if the researcher turns up some information that is useful to them.

Have we created this attitude by being too soft hearted? I wonder whether the same people when they visit their GP do not expect to pay a fee “because it is only a sniffle”, and when they ring a plumber to fix a leaking tap “because my mother-in-law is coming tomorrow” they believe he should repair it for nothing. There is a recommended scale of fees for professional historians set by our national body ACPHA. Of course, individual members are free to charge less (or more) if they wish. Sometimes to remain competitive one is forced to do this. Even so, it is good practice to quote the recommended fee, but then qualify this by offering to do the project for a fee that you are happy to accept. This preserves our professional status, and flatters the client that they have been astute enough to negotiate a bargain.

**Peter J. Tyler**

**President**

## Sorry Day

Almost without exception, it was received instantly as a great day in Australia's history. Many who did not think it needed to happen changed their minds when they saw the effect and registered the groundswell of support that led to community grassroots observances and ceremonies all over the country. All but a few doubters knew to keep quiet. Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> February 2008:

For the pain....we say sorry

To the mothers and fathers....we say sorry

And for the indignity and degradation...we say sorry



Hundreds of locals packed into the forecourt of the Redfern Community Centre despite the downpour to witness Rudd's historic apology. (photo: Lisa Murray).

In the media and on numerous web sites, this was the Sorry Day the nation had been waiting for. That is how it was billed and, despite the notorious inaccuracies of many historians' predictions, I would venture to say that is how it will be remembered. There have been various other 'sorry' speeches made at state level and at significant events, but this was the one that had to be made.

In fact Sorry Day is in May. It was first held on 26<sup>th</sup> May 1998, exactly one year after the tabling of the 'Bringing Them Home Report' which recommended that such a day be held. Thousands of people signed 'sorry books' or added their names to 'Apology Australia', on-line. The big one was in 2000, associated with Corroboree 2000 and the walk on the 28<sup>th</sup> May when hundreds of thousands walked all around the nation, most spectacularly across the Sydney Harbour Bridge under a sky emblazoned with the skywriters wavy 'sorry'.

The day was observed annually until 2005, but by then, in the face of continuing refusal of the Howard government, and Howard in particular, to say 'sorry' the Federal Government's Council for Aboriginal Reconciliation changed the name to 'National Day of Healing for all Australians'. Did you get that? I thought not. The spin intended to reposition the issue away from the basic imperative was offensive to some and just lost on everyone else. By 2007 Sorry Day was on track remembering a decade since the publication of the Bringing them Home Report – a decade in which the word that had to be said had still not been said.

Standing in the rain in Martin Place a few weeks ago, watching everyone else standing in the rain, hanging on to every word of the sorry speech we had been told over and over was not needed, was an historic moment. And many are predicting (breath held) that it is also a turning point.

**Shirley Fitzgerald**

## **PHA(NSW) Professional Development: visit to the University Archives**

On 14 February, twelve members of the PHA and two guests visited the Sydney University Archives, housed in the university's Fisher Library. Julia Mant, the Research Archivist first gave us a lively overview of the collection and some of its search methods and finding aids in the comfort of the conference room and then, after tea and some delicious cakes, led us upstairs to the archives.

Several categories of records make up the collection. The administrative papers of Sydney University and its associated institutions (such as the Sydney College of the Arts, the Teachers College etc) make up the bulk of the collection. The personal archives of people and of bodies closely associated with the university are substantial holdings. Similarly the papers of all university clubs and societies are collected, except the papers of the University Union, the Sports Union and the colleges. The latter have their own collections, though the Archives keep some indexes of these. Lastly, a photographic collection and many University publications are kept here.

It is possible to access some material online through the Sydney University Archives website, < [www.usyd.edu.au/arms/archives](http://www.usyd.edu.au/arms/archives)>. Sydney University Calendars from the 1850s onwards, for example, can be electronically accessed. Most of the collection, however, is not yet scanned. Moreover the online indexes and search tools have some limitations. For these reasons, and the miniscule size of the reading room, the University Archives offer generous assistance to researchers of smaller projects, sending the results of small projects to them, to save a trip. Similarly, to ensure that relevant material exists in the archives for any project, the archivists undertake, upon request, searches to determine the extent of records held on a particular person or topic. Should it be clear that substantial records exist on an area of interests, the archivists ask researchers to undertake the work themselves.

Our President warmly thanked Julia Mant for her extensive tour, remarking on what a useful source the Archives would be, particularly for biographies. No doubt the Sydney University Archives will be more often used in the future by members of the PHA following this event.

**Susan McClean**

## **OLD SYDNEY BURIAL GROUND**

The recent open day for the public to view the latest archaeological excavations of the Old Sydney Burial Ground under Sydney Town Hall was a huge success. Thousands queued for long periods in the January heat, their tempers soothed by City of Sydney sunscreen and bottles of water. Libraries, Culture and Events staff kept the crowds entertained before they were fed through in small groups to hear talks from archaeologists Mary Casey and Tony Lowe.

The purpose of this latest dig, conducted in conjunction with the closing of the Town Hall for upgrade, is to document the remnants of over 50 graves that were once part of the Old Sydney Burial Ground, which served fledgling Sydney between 1792 and 1820. When the colonial government gave the land to the council in the 1860s for a town hall, the cemetery was cleared and any remains found at that time were exhumed and removed to Rookwood Necropolis. But with no plans of who was buried where, it was an impossible task to gather up all the graves and there have been archaeological finds ever since the initial excavation of 1868.

Who was actually buried in the cemetery? As part of the research under-pinning the current archaeological investigations, the History Unit commissioned historian (and PHA member)

Cathy Dunn to compile a list of names identifying who was buried in this early colonial cemetery. This is the first time that a consolidated list of burials for the Old Sydney Burial Ground has been produced.

The inventory identifies the names of 2326 people buried in the cemetery between September 1792 and September 1820. Another 75 names of people have been identified as possibly being buried in the cemetery; the records consulted to date do not provide a definitive answer. These people were buried during the overlap period between September 1819 when the Devonshire Street Cemetery opened and January 1820 when the George Street burial ground was closed.

The cemetery buried both the convict and free population. Of these, 650 burials have so far been confirmed as convicts, but this figure is expected to rise as more information comes to light. There were no apparent denominational divisions, but some social distinctions were maintained in the spatial organisation of the cemetery. Early Sydney residents recalled that members of the military were buried in certain parts of the cemetery and over 150 burials are recorded as military personnel.

It appears only a tiny fraction of the burials were marked with a gravestone. Fewer than three per cent of the burials, or 64 names, have been connected with evidence of headstones and in one case there was a coffin plate. This figure is no doubt conservative (vandalism of the cemetery was rife following its closure in 1820) but it supports the picture painted by contemporary descriptions of the cemetery: the vast majority of graves were unmarked.



Nearly a quarter of the burials, or 538, have been identified as infants. The youngest, John Taber, was buried on 8 May 1812 and had lived for just 2 days.

The causes of death which are recorded in the inventory tend to be dramatic and/or violent, and are indicative of the ways in which many early colonists met their untimely deaths. Two convicts were struck by lightning during a violent storm in October 1793 and were killed, while in 1802 Samuel Allgate was

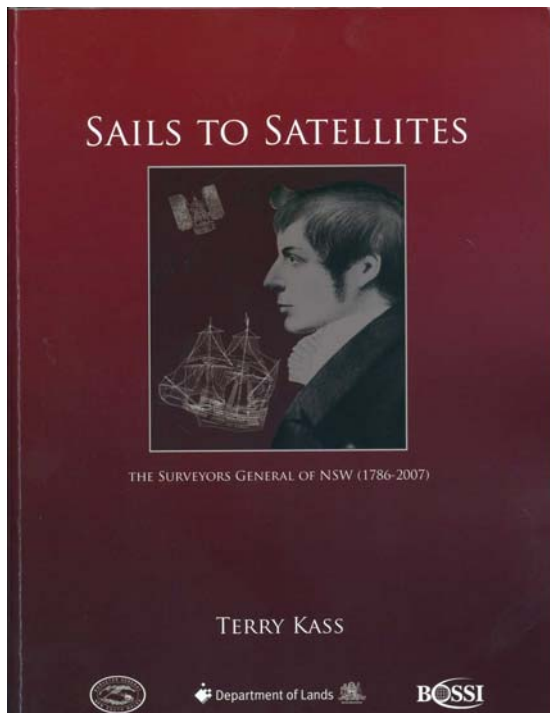
killed by a snake. 25 people are recorded as having drowned, including six infants.

But the majority of those listed in the inventory are just a name and a burial date and we have no more information about them. Of confirmed burials 789, or one third, have no age attributed to them whatsoever; we don't know if they were adults or children. This may have a bearing on the potential for scientific analysis of any archaeological finds. The History Unit hopes that by publishing the inventory on the City's website family historians whose ancestors were once buried in the cemetery will contribute more biographical information to build up a more intimate picture of Sydney's early cemetery.

To see pictures of the recent archaeological dig, view the burial inventory or read more about the cemetery's history visit the website: [www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/history](http://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/history) and click on the Old Sydney Burial Ground link.

**Lisa Murray**

## ***Sails to Satellites: the Actual Launch***



Some PHA members may have seen the flyer introducing Terry Kass's new book *Sails to Satellites: The Surveyors General of NSW (1786-2007)* and some attended a 'pre-launch' of this publication at the AHA conference in Armidale in late September last year. The New South Wales Governor, Her Excellency Professor Marie Bashir, performed the actual launch on 8 February 2008 in the former Mitchell Wing of the State Library of New South Wales. The Governor also provided the Foreword. The other speakers were Warwick Watkins, Surveyor General and Director General, NSW Department of Lands, Historian Dr John Atchison and the Hon Tony Kelly MLC, who holds the portfolios for Lands, Rural Affairs and Regional Development. The leader of the state Opposition, Barry O'Farrell was among the recognised guests and the occasion was sufficiently important to attract surveyors general from other states.

It was indeed a splendid affair. Numerous very tall surveyors dominated the attendant crowd which reflected the four organisations most involved in the book's publication, the Surveyor General's Department, the Department of Lands, the State Library of New South Wales and Board of Surveying and Spatial Information (BOSSI). A few historians were also present and I glimpsed a small contingent from the State Records Office. The crowd was further augmented by people attending a conference on maps that was being held in Sydney and New Zealand.

*Sails to Satellites* is an impressive tome of 482 pages printed on art paper. The 27 surveyors general that have worked in New South Wales are the main focus of the book which details their careers and gives insights into their personal lives. It also explains the developing methods of surveying and land distribution. Contextual information supporting the biographies appears five times under the subheading 'Background'. These look further into the practices of surveying and the difficulties and dangers associated with that profession. They supply the political background to the surveyors' general careers giving insights into the introduction of such changes as the selection acts in the nineteenth century and the closer settlement movement and War Service Land Settlement projects of the twentieth century. It charts the establishment and use of local land offices and boards and traces the changes in the legislative control of land as well as providing significant information on the changes in land clearing and farming practices and their effect on surveying. The book is generously illustrated with copies of all types of plans, many of them in colour. In addition there are many pictures of surveyors and their instruments and some of towns or landscapes with which they were associated. It is a publication that reflects the author's vision with distinction.

**Rosemary Broomham**



## Politics and Power: Bligh's Sydney Rebellion 1808

26 January 2008 marked the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Australia's only military coup. The State Library of New South Wales has put together an exhibition of visual and written material from their vast collection to explore Sydney in 1808 and the events and personalities of those involved in the coup.

The exhibition runs in conjunction with another at the Museum of Sydney which further investigates the Rebellion.

Known by school children all over the nation as the Rum Rebellion, recent revisions of the events in 1808 and closer examination by historians has brought a more measured portrayal and understanding of the Coup. Sydney at the time was by and large a small village, with European settlement only twenty years old and a population of around 7000. The village atmosphere was dominated by the large personalities of the protagonists', Governor Bligh and John Macarthur. Both men were had clear ideas of the way the colony should progress and both men also were clear that it should progress in their favour. Bligh, a man already known for his determination and force of will had been appointed as Governor with the backing of Sir Joseph Banks for these very reasons. Macarthur, former officer of the NSW Corps had already run afoul of previous administrations and was laying the foundations for a vast agricultural empire. In the village that was Sydney, it was almost inevitable that these two personalities would eventually clash.

The story of the Coup would be well enough known to most members to not venture into too much detail here. Needless to say it really didn't end well for many of the participants in the long run.

The exhibition is in the Picture Gallery upstairs in the Mitchell Wing which affords it a close, intimate feel, appropriate not only for the material but also for the historical reality of Sydney town at the time. The panels are close enough that as you read and view material about one of the players or events, the opposing side appears to peer over your shoulder to see what you are looking at.

The exhibition is richly illustrated with paintings, letters, petitions and other pictorial material representing the major players and the town at the time, including the famous, albeit anonymous, image of Bligh being unceremoniously dragged from under his bed by soldiers of the Corps. This evocative satirical piece was displayed in Sydney soon after the overthrow and remained in the family of George Johnston, commander of the Corps at the time of the action, until donated to the Library in 1898. The representation of Bligh as a coward hiding under the bed represents one of Australia's first pieces of political propaganda and went along way to shaping public opinion concerning events until recent years.

More traditional pieces on display include commanding portraits of Macarthur, George Johnston, and Thomas Laycock, as well of Governor Bligh. Paintings of Sydney town at the time are accompanied by explanations of primary buildings and points of interest in terms of the Rebellion (via an audio link) while the role of each of the players, the politics of the town and the growing antagonism between the Government and the Corps are all explained via comprehensive text panels and a illustrated booklet.

The Rebellion remains an extraordinary event in colonial history with so many twists and turns it continues to excite research and further study. The exhibition, although smallish, presents a fantastic collection of items directly related to the event and reminds the visitor not only what must have been an exciting and uncertain time in the colony but also of the incredible collection of material held by the State Library of NSW.

Of course with the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary, the Coup has loomed large in the recent Australia Day commemorations. Although I didn't get to see the re-enactment of the Coup and the 1928 painting by Raymond Lindsey (which is on display as part of the MOS exhibition) I was

fortunate enough to hear Justice James Spigleman delivery the Australia Day address at the Conservatorium of Music on the Rebellion. The lecture was a very informative session on the complexities of the Rebellion, its implications for colonial society and its ongoing effects on the legal landscape of Australia. The overthrow of Bligh, although welcomed by some in the community at the time, was a serious affront to the young community and to the rule of law in the distant colony. The central role of the military in the Coup and the intervening two years of rule (before Macquarie's arrival) made many Sydneysiders very nervous.

Spigleman made note that the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the arrival of Macquarie also marks the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the return to the rule of law, itself an important event worthy of commemoration in two years time. The lecture was broadcast by ABC Radio National and published on the Australia Day 2008 website

(<http://www.australiaday.com.au/whatson/australiadayaddress2.aspx?AddressID=17>) and is worth a read through for those interested in an informed approach on the subject outside the usual Bligh versus Macarthur debate.

**Mark Dunn**

## **Sydney Pub's: Liquor, Larrikins and the Law**

Sydney Pubs are for many a part of the streetscape as naturally as the corner shop. Since the 1790s, pubs, short for public house, have been a feature of Sydney life both good and bad. This new exhibition presented by the Historic Houses trust in conjunction with the Powerhouse Museum on show at the Justice and Police Museum, sets out to explore the love-hate relationship that Sydney has had with its pubs from the first roadside inns of the colonial town, to the corner pubs of the late nineteenth century, the tied houses of the mid twentieth century, to the rock venues, pokie palaces and glamour hotels' of more recent years.

There is plenty of material to draw on and the exhibition space manages to get a lot of it on display. The exhibition presents the story in a broadly chronological way, and sets out a range of artefacts, objects, paintings, photos, models and memorabilia to accompany the informative text panels.

The exhibition examines the role of the hotel in society as well as the opposition that hotels have dealt with, including the temperance movement of the later nineteenth century and twentieth century, the years of six o'clock closing with its tiled swilling pubs, problems with drunkenness and the inevitable rise of sly grog shops and the criminal gangs that went with them. Indeed this is a story that is examined in some detail in a separate room, delving into the seedy underbelly of the Sydney underworld from between the wars, a story presented previously in the museum in its Sydney Shadows exhibition.

A highlight is a large interactive map of the city, based on a fire insurance map from the 1930s and 1940s. This display has the location of Sydney city hotels marked out, with an interactive feature whereby through touching the hotel site a series of historic and contemporary photographs with explanatory text is shown on screens above the map. It is a great feature allowing you to explore the changes in the city landscape, discover long gone hotels, surviving hotel buildings now transformed and to see hotels that have survived in the city intact.

For the artistically minded, there is plenty to attract the eye including the great painted mirrors of the Tooth Hotels that once graced many Sydney pubs, some fantastically detailed and exquisitely coloured architectural drawings, quirky advertising posters as well as many detailed photographs taken for publicity or by police reporters which often elicit more stories in what they don't show than what they do.

As a historian with a heritage bent, and a self confessed fondness for Sydney pubs, I thought this was a fantastic journey and could have spent much longer exploring, and in terms of an old fashioned pub crawl, this is the safest way of doing one I have come across so far.

The exhibition runs throughout 2008, with the museum open weekends, public holidays and school holiday periods.

**Mark Dunn**

## Callan Park: once more !

For all its varied and confrontational past, Callan Park is entering yet another crucial period in its history. Rozelle Hospital closes in the next couple of months, ownership of the site will transfer from Health to Sydney Harbour Foreshore Authority (SHFA), the Department of Health will retain the Broughton Hall precinct and the University of Sydney (which has the Sydney College of the Arts on the site) is proposing to expand its campus under a 99 year lease and develop a *substantial and coherent portion* of Callan Park.

In 2002, when Callan Park was under a different threat (sale of part of the site for private residential development) the community fought this proposal and welcomed legislation introduced by the local Member, Sandra Nori, who declared that the Callan Park (Special Provisions) Act 2002 *means Callan Park is protected forever and a day under a Labor Government. The Act specifically prevents any reduction in the amount of open space ... prevents any increase in the total floor area of buildings ... (and) ensures that Callan Park will retain its character as a health and community facility.* (Legislative Council, 13 November 2002)

Four and a half years later Frank Sartor (as Minister Administering the Callan Park Act), the University of Sydney and SHFA signed a Memorandum of Understanding in June 2007 under which the University of Sydney sought *to expand its current activities* (at Callan Park) *... within the context of the Callan Park Act 2002.* Indeed the resulting Callan Park Land Use Plan issued in December reinforces the significance of the Callan Park Act as *the primary statutory document influencing the management and development* of the site.

Yet the proposed plans for the University's development do not comply with the Act. These plans can proceed only if the government amends the legislation.

The Plan divides Callan Park into 8 precincts with different emphases of use, closes internal roads, builds others anew, retains some heritage listed buildings, demolishes many deemed intrusive (some built as recently as early 1990s), and proposes the construction of 15-16 buildings 3-4 storeys high across the central slopes for the University, providing accommodation for 700 students (with an estimated 5-6,000 staff and students using the site each day and 1200 car parking lots) and permits the University to enter into commercial leases. None of this is possible under the Callan Park Act.

The University's proposal increases floor space by almost 50%.

Community concerns are to be assuaged by an additional 0.2 of a hectare of open space – in a municipality where the average housing block is small this equates to 5 local house sites. The term "Open Space" is also ambiguous since roadways and parking areas are included. Existing parking figures are *based on a cursory site inspection.* Traffic in the area already experiences significant delays, with narrow roads and little off street parking. Trees are out of control at Callan Park, according to the consultants, and will be felled to reinstate views to the harbour.

There is an absence of detailed information about many aspects of Callan Park's future and the University's developments or how NSW Health proposes to manage, restore and conserve the NGO Precinct 4 at Broughton Hall. Nowhere in the Plan are there details about restoring the original estate house which gave its name to the site, Broughton Hall.

Between meetings on 28 October and 14 November last year an additional storey was added to the University's proposed buildings – at that rate no-one has any idea just how tall they will be. Vistas into, from and across the site are jeopardised – as is the landmark status of the Kirkbride buildings.

There is a pressing need for rehabilitation sites for the mentally ill and the government is ignoring the community's wishes for the historical uses - mental health services – to continue at Callan Park. Community support for the retention of mental health services at Callan Park is overwhelming: in Leichhardt Council's 2008 survey 81% do not want the University on site; and 80% are 'highly concerned' (and an additional 15% were concerned) about a reduction in mental health services.

Callan Park must be preserved as a whole. Segmenting it into different precincts, with the potential for different organizations with different intentions, will destroy the integrity and character of this great cultural landscape. To achieve the closure the government wants for Callan Park a proper consultation process without a prescribed outcome must proceed. Above all - the Callan Park Act must be respected.

Roslyn Burge

Local resident, member - National Trust Parks & Gardens Committee and Friends of Callan Park

Further details:

[www.shfa.nsw.gov.au](http://www.shfa.nsw.gov.au)

The University of Sydney

Leichhardt Council

Friends of Callan Park

Sydney Harbour Foreshore Authority

[www.usyd.edu.au/callan\\_park](http://www.usyd.edu.au/callan_park)

[www.lmc.nsw.gov.au](http://www.lmc.nsw.gov.au)

[www.callanpark.org](http://www.callanpark.org)

## History of Medicine Library News

The History of Medicine Library of the Royal Australasian College of Physicians was established 1938 at the same time as the College, and grew mainly through the donations of books and materials by Fellows of the College who had a specialist interest in medical history.

With a comprehensive international collection, the Library concentrates on the history of medicine in Australia and New Zealand. It contains over 30,000 books, several rare collections, journals, photographs, AV material, manuscripts and medical instruments.

History of Medicine Library of the Royal Australasian College of Physicians

145 Macquarie Street

Sydney 2000

Librarian: Liz Rouse

Tel 9256 5413

Email [racplib@racp.edu.au](mailto:racplib@racp.edu.au)

## Library Lecture Series 2008

Following the great success of our December lecture "Madness in the Opera" by Professor Michael Halliwell, we have planned an exciting topic for our next lecture, on **Monday 10 March**, when Dr Michael Kennedy will speak on the Shipman Murders.

In 2000 the English general practitioner Harold Shipman was tried and convicted on 15 sample charges of murder. An official enquiry later that year estimated that he had killed 250 people, 80% of them female, though the youngest was a 41 year old man. This made him

one of the most prolific serial killers in modern history. Much of Britain's health care legislation was reviewed and heavily modified as a result of his crimes.

**Monday 16 June** - Professor Ian Siggins of the University of Queensland Medical School will speak on "Medical Professionalism – A History of Medical Ethics". Ian has a specialist interest in medieval history and the foundation of the guilds.

**Monday 8 September** - Professor Robert Clancy of the University of Newcastle will speak on Plague in Australia. A fourth lecture, yet to be finalised, will be held in late November.

All Library lectures are held in the Education Centre, 52 Phillip Street, Sydney, at 6.30pm. Entry is \$5 and wine and cheese accompany discussion afterwards. Bookings are essential – see below

Please contact the Librarian, Liz Rouse, for further information, to visit our Library or to join our electronic mailing list.

## **STATE RECORDS' COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CAC)**

[www.records.nsw.gov.au](http://www.records.nsw.gov.au)

The Community Advisory Committee met on 7 February 2008 at the Sydney Records Centre and discussed the following matters.

- **NamesPLUS!** is the title of the initiative by State Records to collaborate with a number of other organisations (such as SAG) and private individuals to combine their indexes and work to improve accessibility. This will be of particular benefit for people living in regional NSW who do not have to travel to Sydney but can access local resources or order copies. The project will stretch over an initial five year period. NamesPLUS! also links indexes to series or item entries within Archives Investigator and to names of places and individuals.
- **Outreach** activities – regional activities and responding to suggestions is important and State Records has a strong outreach program evidenced in their participation in the National Trust Festival 2008 (Singleton) and History Week. See State Records program of events on their website.

The State Records Act 1998 provides State Records with a role in the community but is not funded. The idea of a pilot program between State Records and the Migration Museum and archives was discussed – with an exhibition being the outcome. State Records is also working with CAN (Collections Australia Network) which is well resourced for heritage sector and museums, but not as extensively for records and documents.

- **Website visits** are increasing.
- **Aboriginal Trust Fund Repayment Scheme** – by the end of June the program will have been in existence three years. 1600 claimants have been registered and just under \$1 million has been paid out.

State Records has received two grants for indexing Chief Secretary's correspondence (1938-1949 - completed in 2007) and another for indexing records of Aborigines Welfare Board (1949-1968) 53,000 names have been entered.

- *In Living Memory* is State Records' most successful exhibition and continues to attract good numbers. 59 groups have visited in the last three months.
- **Guidance procedures for users** – there was some discussion about users (students particularly) trying to search using "simple search" – when searching

through series description note could be more fruitful. Since *Archives Investigator* was launched in 2000 more has been learnt about the program and has undergone some changes recently.

- An **Archives Investigator working party** (Rosemary Annable, Carol Liston and Christine Yeats) will scope ways in which public understanding of Archives Investigator could be improved.
- **Probate Packets** – can be made accessible up to 1977. However, there is a time lag in the transfer of probate packets from the Court to State Records (up to 1965). It is up to the Court to make the transfers.
- **Copying large items** – State Records' equipment for copying large items (maps etc) is not operational at present. Researchers are encouraged to bring their own cameras.
- **David Roberts retires** – and will be leaving State Records in May. Rick Shapter expressed the appreciation of the Aboriginal Community for the work undertaken by State Records, particularly for the *In Living Memory* exhibition – and Carol Liston thanked David for addressing issues raised by the community.
- **Copying at Western Sydney Records Centre** – the issue that there are no procedures in place to advise readers when their copy orders are completed. State Records will consider this further.
- **Reading old handwriting styles** – some readers and students have difficulty interpreting old handwriting (for example, a 'cargo of staves' was read as a 'cargo of slaves' and a 'thatcher' became a 'rat catcher'). The National Archives in the UK has a section helping people read different styles of handwriting (up to 1790). Carol Liston and David Roberts (committee member from UNE) will work on a proposal to consider this issue.

Reminder: the PHA's representative on this Committee represents you and all members of the PHA. If you have any matters about State Records you would like raised please contact Roslyn Burge ([rburge@ozemail.com.au](mailto:rburge@ozemail.com.au)). The next meeting will be held on 31 July 2008.

The publication, *Archives Matter!*, highlighting the work of the Council of Australasian Archives and Records Authorities was distributed at the meeting. Further details may be found at their website: [www.caara.org.au](http://www.caara.org.au)

and the Australian Society of Archivists – [www.archivists.org.au](http://www.archivists.org.au)

***In Living Memory* –surviving photographs from the Records of the NSW Aborigines Welfare Board from 1919-1966**, is State Records' most successful exhibition and has been extended until the end of June. I would encourage anyone to visit this rich and poignant exhibition – and allow plenty of time!

Free entry / 9-5 Mon-Fri / 10-4 Sundays / exhibition talks & tours available for small groups on weekdays. Call 8247 8660 to make a booking.

## History Council of NSW

On 23 February 2008 the History Council of NSW held its AGM at the Pearl Beach Community Hall on the NSW Central Coast. The meeting was attended by 18 members. The meeting dealt with the year just passed, with a significant portion being taken up with changes in the Council's constitution. The changes were mainly updates of the ten year old constitution and clarifications of the roles of the Council and positions within them. Lively discussion was had over some of the finer points, with members contributing well considered arguments. The meeting was followed by wine and nibbles.

The AGM also included feedback on the History Week 2007 festival. Last year's History Week, which is the Councils flagship event, was a resounding success with 270 events being staged throughout NSW, not including the sold out Annual History lecture and the increasingly popular Off the Beaten Track lecture series, which last year featured Professor Iain Jack travelling to Griffith, Deniliquin and Albury-Woodonga to present his lecture on The Pastoral Legacy.

For 2008 the History Week theme is The Water's Edge, which promises to be a thought provoking theme for the week, with a multitude of interpretations possible.

## Wanted: The Nation's Missing Newspapers

If you have a pile of old newspapers under you bed or in a stack out in the shed, we want to hear from you.

As part of the nation-wide Australian Newspaper Plan, libraries across the country want to find, collect and preserve the nation's missing newspapers.

Newspapers did more than just report the news. They told stories of their time, through ads, photographs and even their design – stories we want to preserve for all Australians.

For a full list of the 'wanted' newspapers, go to [www.nla.gov.au/anplan](http://www.nla.gov.au/anplan)

Thanks to Cathy Dunn for bringing our attention to this article in the National Library February enews.



# What's On in History

Prepared by [Christine de Matos](#)

## MARCH 2008

### Exhibitions

**'The ever memorable 26 January 1808'**. **Venue:** Museum of Sydney.

**'Sydney's Pubs: Liquor, Larrikins & the Law'**. 28 February 2008. **Venue:** Justice and Police Museum.

**'Proof: portraits from the Movement 1978-2003'**. Until 2 March 2008. **Venue:** Museum of Sydney.

**'Sydney views 1788-1888: from the Beat Knoblauch collection'**. Until April 2008. **Venue:** Museum of Sydney.

**'Politics & Power: Bligh's Sydney Rebellion 1808'**. Until 27 April 2008. **Venue:** State Library of NSW

**'Citizen soldiers: The New South Wales Volunteer Rifles, 1854-85'**. Until October 2009. **Venue:** Hyde Park Barracks Museum.

### Events March

- 1** **Walking tour.** *'Sydney Architecture Walks: Utzon'*. HHT. **Meeting venue:** Museum of Sydney **Time:** 10.30am-12.30pm **Cost:** \$25, mem/conc \$20 **Bookings essential:** ph: (02) 8239 2211. Full pgm at [www.sydneyarchitecture.org](http://www.sydneyarchitecture.org)
- 5** **Walking tour.** *'Sydney Architecture Walks'*. HHT. **Meeting venue:** Museum of Sydney **Time:** 10.30am-12.30pm **Cost:** \$25, mem/conc \$20 **Bookings essential:** ph: (02) 8239 2211. Full pgm at [www.sydneyarchitecture.org](http://www.sydneyarchitecture.org)
- 5** **Lecture.** *'Sydney in the 1860s and 1870s'*. With Dr Lesley Muir. RAHS. **Venue:** History House Auditorium **Time:** 1pm **Cost:** \$7, mems \$5 **Bookings essential:** ph: (02) 9247 8001; email: [history@rahs.org.au](mailto:history@rahs.org.au).
- 8** **Conference.** *'The Makings of a City History Conference: A Social Snapshot'*, Penrith City Library. **Enquiries:** Lorraine Stacker, email: [lstack@penrithcity.nsw.gov.au](mailto:lstack@penrithcity.nsw.gov.au); Alison Spencer, email: [alisons@penrithcity.nsw.gov.au](mailto:alisons@penrithcity.nsw.gov.au).
- 8 & 9** **Open house.** *'Rose Seidler Open house'*. HHT. **Time:** 10am-5pm **Cost:** free **Enquiries:** web: <http://www.hht.net.au>
- 9** **Fair.** *'Nepean Family History Society: Family History Fair'*. **Venue:** Penrith City Library **Time:** 10am-4pm **Enquiries:** email: [lstack@penrithcity.nsw.gov.au](mailto:lstack@penrithcity.nsw.gov.au).
- 11, 18**
- & 25** **Lecture series.** *'Cobb & Co — The facts behind the legend'*. With Sam Everingham. WEA & RAHS. **Venue:** History House Auditorium **Time:** 12.30-2.30pm **Cost:** \$60 **Bookings essential:** ph: (02) 9264 2781.
- 12** **Lecture.** *'Line of Sight: the trigonometrical survey of Sydney's north'*. With Tony Dawson. RAHS & ASHET. **Venue:** History House **Time:** 5.30 for 6pm **Cost:** \$7 **Bookings essential:** ph: (02) 9247 8001; email: [history@rahs.org.au](mailto:history@rahs.org.au)



- 12 Seminar.** *'Women in the workforce - A Women's History Month event'*. Emily Hanna on women in the workforce based on the NSW State archives. State Records & Australian Women's Archive Project. **Venue:** Sydney Records Centre **Time:** 10.30am-12.30pm **Enquiries:** email: [accinfo2@records.nsw.gov.au](mailto:accinfo2@records.nsw.gov.au).
- 13 Talk.** *'Women in history'*. State Library. **Venue:** Dixson Room, Mitchell Wing **Time:** 5.30 for 6pm **Cost:** \$22, seniors \$20, mems/students \$15 **Bookings essential:** ph: (02) 9273 1770; fax: (02) 9273 1248; email: [bookings@sl.nsw.gov.au](mailto:bookings@sl.nsw.gov.au).
- 13-14 Conference.** *'Rebellion: authority and protest in convict Australia'*. HHT & Centre for Historical Research from the National Museum of Australia, at the Museum of Sydney. **Enquiries:** web: [http://www.hht.net.au/museums/mos/rum\\_rebellion](http://www.hht.net.au/museums/mos/rum_rebellion).
- 22-23 Conference.** *'State of the Art: Science Fiction Histories'*, Perth. **Enquiries:** email [sciencefictionhistories@gmail.com](mailto:sciencefictionhistories@gmail.com)
- 27-30 Conference.** *'Nations, Diasporas, Identities'*, Victoria University of Wellington. **Enquiries:** email: [brad.patterson@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:brad.patterson@vuw.ac.nz); web: <http://www.vuw.ac.nz/stout-centre/research-units/issp/conferences/conf-nations.aspx>
- 28 Conference.** *'Cosmopolitan Melbourne: Cultural Diversity and Social Cohesion'*, Monash University Law Chambers, Melbourne. **Enquiries:** email: [Elizabeth.Coleman@arts.monash.edu.au](mailto:Elizabeth.Coleman@arts.monash.edu.au); web: <http://www.arts.monash.edu.au/ecps/communications/news-and-events/>
- 29 Seminar.** *'Working on the railway: sources relating to railway employees'*. Christine Yeats on records in the NSW State archives relating to employment on the railways. State Records & Society of Australian Genealogists. **Venue:** Richmond Villa, 120 Kent Street, Sydney **Time:** 10.30am-12.30pm **Cost:** \$30, mems/conc \$25 **Enquiries:** ph: (02) 92473953.

### Upcoming Conferences

**'Locating History: Australian Historical Association Biennial Conference'**, 7-10 July 2008, University of Melbourne. **Enquiries:** email: [aha-info@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:aha-info@unimelb.edu.au)

**'Minority reports - Indigenous and community voices in Archives. International Conference on the History of Records and Archives (ICHORA4)'**, 3-5 August 2008, University of Western Australia. **Enquiries:** email: [ichora4@ecu.edu.au](mailto:ichora4@ecu.edu.au); web: <http://www.archivists.org.au/ichora/ICHORA4/index.html>

**'Archives - discovery and exploration. The Australian Society of Archivists annual conference'**, 7-9 August 2008, Perth. **Enquiries:** email: [asaconference@emailme.com.au](mailto:asaconference@emailme.com.au); web: <http://www.archivists.org.au/2008-conference-perth>.

### Call for Papers

**'The Centenary Conference of Rugby League in Australia'**, 7-8 November 2008, Powerhouse Museum, Sydney. Abstracts of 250 words due by **1 March 2008**, full paper for publication by **1 May 2008**. **Enquiries:** Andrew Moore, email: [A.Moore@uws.edu.au](mailto:A.Moore@uws.edu.au)

**'Revisiting the Massacre in History: An Interdisciplinary Workshop'**, 25-26 September, 2008, University of Newcastle, NSW. Abstracts of 400 words due **15 March 2008**. **Enquiries:** Dr Philip Dwyer, email: [Philip.Dwyer@newcastle.edu.au](mailto:Philip.Dwyer@newcastle.edu.au) or Prof. Lyndall Ryan, email: [Lyndall.Ryan@newcastl.edu.au](mailto:Lyndall.Ryan@newcastl.edu.au).

**'Asian Studies Association of Australia (ASAA) 17th biennial conference: Is this**

***the Asian Century?***, 1-3 July 2008, Sebel Albert Park Hotel, Melbourne. Abstracts of 250 words due **30 March 2008**. Enquiries: web: <http://www.conferenceworks.net.au/asaa/>.

**To include an event in *What's On* email to Christine de Matos at [cdm@uow.edu.au](mailto:cdm@uow.edu.au).**

***What's On* is also on the web at <http://www.historians.org.au/whatson.html>**

## **PHA (NSW) Directory 2007-8**

Postal Address: GPO Box 2437, Sydney NSW 2001, Australia

Telephone: 02 9252 9437

Email: [secretary@phansw.org.au](mailto:secretary@phansw.org.au)

Website: [www.phansw.org.au](http://www.phansw.org.au)

For specific enquiries see list below

## **PHA (NSW) Officers 2007-8**

President: Peter J. Tyler Tel.9420 4371 or [president@phansw.org.au](mailto:president@phansw.org.au)

Vice President: Virginia Macleod Tel.9977 4950

Secretary: Ruth Banfield Tel.9605 4089 or [secretary@phansw.org.au](mailto:secretary@phansw.org.au)

Treasurer: Rosemary Kerr Tel.9327 3906

Executive Members: Christine Cheater, Pauline Curby and Susan McClean

Minutes Secretary: Christine Cheater

Membership Secretary: Susan McClean

Public Relations: Peter Tyler

Public Officer: Virginia Macleod

Website: Christine de Matos

Representatives on other bodies:

Australian Council of PHAs (ACPHA): Peter Tyler, David Lewis (Alternate)

ACPHA Appeals Committee: Rosemary Kerr

ACPHA Selection Committee: Roslyn Burge

History Council of NSW: Mark Dunn

Heritage Council – History Advisory Panel: Terry Kass

National Archives Customer Council: Terry Kass

Library, Archives, and Management Committee of the Royal Australian

Historical Society: Terri McCormack

State Records' Community Advisory Committee: Roslyn Burge

## **Professional Services**

Library: Terri McCormack Tel.9810 4421

Employment Network: Peter Tyler

Professional Development: Pauline Curby Tel.9527 7214

## **Publications**

*Phanfare* Co-ordinator: Tel. 9252 9437 or [phanfare@phansw.org.au](mailto:phanfare@phansw.org.au)

Editorial Collectives: See list at front of *Phanfare*

Other PHA publications: Ruth Banfield

*The Professional Historians Association (NSW) Inc* is the organisation representing qualified historians in NSW and ACT who are professionally employed or commissioned to undertake historical work.

## *Publications*

### *PHA (NSW) web Site*

[www.phansw.org.au](http://www.phansw.org.au)

available on line

PHA (NSW) Register of consulting historians

List of financial members

PHA (NSW) Annual Reports

Professional fees

PHA (NSW) Register of Historic Places and objects

Phanfare indexes

Information about professional development

## *Monographs*

*Historians & Native Title*

Price \$22 each GST incl

Address orders to PHA (NSW) GPO Box 2437 SYDNEY 2001

## *National web site*

[www.historians.org.au](http://www.historians.org.au)

Code of Ethics

History as a career

Commissioning history

What's on in History

ISSN 0616 3774