

## PAULINE CURBY PROFESSIONAL HISTORIAN



31 Trickett Road  
Cronulla NSW 2230  
(02) 9523 8814  
0427 527 721  
[pcurby@iprimus.com.au](mailto:pcurby@iprimus.com.au)

Specialising in:

***commissioned histories***  
***oral history***  
***historical research***

### EDUCATION

- BA University of New England (1968-70)
- Dip Ed University of New England (1971)
- Grad Dip (Local & Applied History), Armidale CAE (1984-87)
- MA (Applied History), University of Technology, Sydney (1990-92)

### WORK SUMMARY

- Free-lance consultant historian (1992-2019) – details pp. 2-3
- History & English teacher – 1972-93 & intermittent adult education (WEA and TAFE)

### MEMBERSHIP:

- Professional Historians Australia PHA (NSW & ACT)
- Oral History Australia (OHA)
- Royal Australian Historical Society (RAHS)
- Historical Societies: Sutherland Shire (SSHS) & Mid-Richmond

### AWARDS:

- NSW Premier's History Award (Community & Regional History), 2010 - *Randwick*
- NSW History Fellowship, 2011 for research into NSW capital punishment, 1910-1939
- Highly commended, interpretation & presentation, Energy Australia/National Trust Awards, 2010 - *Randwick*
- RH Dougherty NSW local government award, 2010 - *Randwick*
- Highly commended, interpretation & presentation, Energy Australia/National Trust Awards, 2007 - *Under the Canopy, a Centenary history of Ku-ring-ai Council*
- Winner, print media, Energy Australia/National Trust Awards, 2002 - *Seven Miles from Sydney, a History of Manly*
- Centenary Medal for services to local history, 2000

### PRO BONO

- PHA (NSW & ACT) delegate to Professional Historians Australia, 2010-2016 & editor of national E-newsletter, *Historia* (2012-2016)
- Sutherland Shire Historical Society (SSHS) representative on Sutherland Shire heritage sub-committee, 2009-2021
- Centenary committee – Cronulla Public School, 2010
- Organising committee PHA NSW. 'Islands of History' conference, 2010
- Editor: *Caretakers of our Past* (SSHS, 2016)  
*East Coast Encounters 1770, reflections on a cultural clash* (SSHS, 2020)

## *Experience as a Professional Historian:*

---

### **PUBLISHED WORKS**

#### *Books*

- *Local Government Engineers' Association, a Centenary History*, UNSW Press, Sydney, 2019
- *Independent Minds, a history of St George Girls High School*, UNSW Press, Sydney, 2016
- *Randwick*, Randwick City Council, 2009
- *Freshie, Freshwater SLSC, the first 100 years*, UNSW Press, Sydney, 2007
- *Seven Miles from Sydney, a History of Manly*, Manly Council, 2001, winner of the print media, Energy Australia/National Trust Awards, 2002
- *Pictorial History of Sutherland Shire*, Kingsclear Books, 2004 (2<sup>nd</sup> edition 2007)
- *Pittwater Rising, the Making of Pittwater Council*, Pittwater Council, 2002
- *A Pictorial History of Cronulla*, Kingsclear Books, 1998 (2<sup>nd</sup> edition 2006)
- *Visitors Sixpence, Manly Hospital - the First 100 Years*, Manly Hospital & Community Health Services, Manly, 1996
- *Battlers' Boomtown - Coraki in the Early 1890s*, Northern Rivers Publishing (with the aid of a grant from RAHS), Lismore, 1992

#### *Books with Virginia Macleod:*

- *Uncovering Rockdale's Migration Heritage Story: Rockdale's recreational places used by migrant community groups*, Rockdale City Council, 2013
- *Under the Canopy, a Centenary history of Ku-ring-ai Council*, Ku-ring-ai Council, 2006
- *Good Riddance, a History of Waste Management in Manly, Mosman, Pittwater and Warringah*, Warringah, Manly, Mosman and Pittwater Joint Services Committee, 2003

#### *Booklets*

- *Cronulla Public School - the Early Years*, Cronulla, 1991
- *The Hermitage - Memories of the 1930s*, Ryde City Council, 1998
- *Memories of the 1919 Influenza Pandemic*, Ryde City Council, 1998

#### *Articles*

- 'Cold-blooded Judicial Murder, 1910-1925', JRAHS, Vol 103, Pt 1, June 2017.
- 'A Dread Decision: the Execution of Edwin Hickey, 1936', *Labour History*, No 107, November 2014, pp. 95-114.
- 'A frightful deed, capital punishment and a triple child murder, 1924', *Circa, the Journal of Professional Historians*, Issue 4, 2014
- 'Grave Source of Dissension: Murder, Capital punishment and the NSW Labor Party, 1910-1912', *Circa, the Journal of Professional Historians*, Issue 3, 2012.
- *History*, Magazine of the RAHS: 'Bass & Flinders in Port Hacking', February 1996; 'Heroes of the Surf', June 2005; 'The Glebe Bridge at Coraki', March 2006
- 'Bush, Brush, Forest and Scrub' in J. Dargavel (ed) *The Coming of Age, Forest Values and Heritage Values*, Australian Heritage Commission, 1997, Technical Series No.1.
- 'Keeping the Home Going' in *Voiceprint*, No 29, October 2003; 'Good Riddance' in *Voiceprint*, No 30, April 2004.

#### *Online*

- Newbiggin, Robert <http://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/newbiggin-robert-14987>;
- Saw, Charles Stuart (Ron) <http://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/saw-charles-stuart-ron-17144>
- 'Randwick, Land of swamps and heath' <http://dictionaryofsydney.org/entry/randwick>
- 'Sand and Sea, Land and Seascapes in the History of Coastal Sydney', *Australian Studies*, Vol 7, Series 2 (2015) <http://www.nla.gov.au/ojs/index.php/australian-studies>
- *Reviews in Australian Studies* Vol 4, No 5 (2010); Vol 5, No 2 (2011) <http://www.nla.gov.au/ojs/index.php/ras/search/advancedResults>

## *Other Experience as a Professional Historian:*

---

### **CONSULTANCIES – ORAL HISTORY**

- ‘Telling it as it was’ oral history project (2006-2017) – Sutherland Shire
- Coordinator - Recording Ryde’s Oral History Project (1997-1999)
- Australian Customs Service Oral History Project (2001-2002)
- A career in the Australian shipping industry, private client (2004)

### **CONSULTANCIES – ABORIGINAL CONTACT HISTORY**

- Research (with Professor Heather Goodall) for Bundjalung native title claim (2002)
- Aboriginal Living Places Project for NPWS (2003)

### **CONSULTANCIES – HERITAGE & ENVIRONMENTAL HISTORY**

#### *Heritage Studies (thematic histories)*

- Moree Plains Shire; Sutherland Shire; Sutherland Shire foreshore study; Lismore City Council

#### *Histories for Conservation Management Plans*

- Thompson Street wharf history for Bill Jordan & Associates P/L (2012)
- Northern Suburbs Crematorium for Noel Bell, Ridley Smith & Partners (2004)
- Chowder Bay for Sydney Harbour Federation Trust in association with Brian McDonald & Associates (2003)
- *Nutcote*, commissioned by the *Nutcote* Trust with North Sydney Council (research)
- Langley Vale Tramway, Lansdowne State Forest (research)
- Gundle Tin Mines & convict-built lime kilns (Kempsey Forestry District) with Austral Archaeology for SFNSW
- Bourke - former Lands Department office and former court house - for New South Wales Department of Public Works

#### *Heritage Assessments & Site Specific Studies*

- maritime survey of the lower Richmond River (principal) for Richmond River Council
- former cinema on Crown Road Queenscliff for Caldis Cook Group
- Australia Square, Public Spaces, Tanner & Associates
- domestic buildings in Kangaroo Point and Yowie Bay (private clients)
- Chinese complex in Retreat Street, Alexandria for Perumal, Murphy & Wu
- private residence at Hurstville Grove for Perumal, Murphy & Wu

#### *Forest History*

- Eastern Pilliga history report for AECOM (2011)
- Non-Indigenous Cultural Heritage study - South Brigalow Bioregion Assessment (principal) for RACAC (2002)
- European ‘disturbance’ histories, Environmental Impact Statements for State Forests, NSW for Grafton, Casino and Dorrigo Forestry Districts
- Joint Old Growth Forest Project (JOGFP) - (SFNSW & NPWS), historical context
- Vegetation Data from Historical Portion Plan Surveys (principal) for SFNSW
- Disturbance History Mapping Project, Dubbo forests for SFNSW (principal)
- Studies for SFNSW, Narrandera: Buckingbong, Gillenbah & Matong State Forest, 1997

### **SIGNIFICANCE ASSESSEMENTS**

- Local Studies Collections – Sutherland Library; Warringah Library, 2015
- The Royal Australian Historical Society Library collection, 2014
- Leichhardt Women’s Community Health Centre collection, 2012
- The Moruya and District Historical Society Museum Collection, 2011
- Randwick and District Historical Society & Local Studies Collections, Bowen Library, 2009