



# NEWSLETTER

## AUSTRALIA DAY AWARDS 2019

We are pleased to report that two of our members were honoured with the award of the Order of Australia Medal.

Six members of the local community who were recipients of the OAM, were described in the District Reporter as Outstanding Australians.

Our two members who were so described are our President Dr Ian Willis OAM and member Ron Shepherd OAM.

Thank you to Lee Abrahams for the image of Ron.

### Inside this issue:

Australia Day	p1
Editor's Notes	p2
Sign & Visitors	p2
Talks	p3
Reception	p4
Upcoming	p5
New Items	p 5
Commemoration	p6
Donations	p7
Cabinet items	p7
Welfare, Visit & Roadworks	p8



**Ian Willis OAM**  
*'For Service to  
Community History'*



**Ron Shepherd OAM**  
*'For Service to the Community  
through Bell Ringing'*

## AUSTRALIA DAY PARADE

Again we thank Max Boardman for the use of his ute in the parade to promote our museum. The motorists are Julie and John Wrigley OAM. Sadly, the attendances were down due to the unbearable 40°C heat.



Dressed for the occasion was Laura Jane Aulsebrook in Australia Day colours.

### Ordinary General Meetings 2019

- 13 February
- 13 March
- 10 April
- 8 May
- 12 June
- 10 July
- 14 August & AGM
- 11 September
- 9 October
- 13 November
- 11 December

Meetings are held on the second Wednesday of the month at 7.30 pm in the Museum,

40 John St, Camden.  
All welcome

Ph: (02) 4655 3400

All correspondence to Secretary: [secretary@camdenhistory.org.au](mailto:secretary@camdenhistory.org.au) • Editors: Lee Stratton & Bob Lester  
President: Dr Ian Willis OAM • Vice Presidents: Cathey Shepherd & John Wrigley OAM • Treasurer Kathy Lester • Secretary: Lee Stratton 47748005 • Immediate Past President Bob Lester • General Committee: Sharon Greene, Robert Wheeler, Julie Wrigley, Frances Warner, Warren Sim Webmaster: Steve Robinson Facebook: Rene Rem

This newsletter is proudly printed by Angus Taylor MP, Member for Hume and Minister for Energy

## Editor's Notes

### Upcoming speakers 2019

**13 March** - Dr Brian Walsh, has written a book on 'William and Elizabeth Patterson - the Edge of Empire' where the focus will be on Elizabeth and her associations.

**10 April** - Doug Fulford will talk on an adventurous trip from Fremantle WA to Sydney NSW in a Studebaker car in 1915

**8 May** - Heritage Festival - 'Connecting People, Places and Past' where members and guests talk

**12 June** - Ron Davies will talk on 'Life on a Picton Dairy Farm'

**10 July** - Kylie Warner will talk on her life as a Nurse in the Prison System where she works at Berrima Gaol

**14 August - AGM** - Ian will present his 'Last President's Report'

**11 September** - History Week - 'Memory and Landscapes' where members and guests talk

**9 October** - Rodna Siebels will talk on her archaeology in Egypt

**13 November** - TBA

**11 December** - Christmas Party for members and guests

\*\* The above speakers/topics are subject to change

**The Committee is seeking speakers for 2020.**

### WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

Michael & Margaret Barry, Sandra & Joyce Dodds, Nicole Ellis, Rachel Faulds, Virginia & Mario Ghezzi, Donald & Nan Howard, Lorraine Iddon, Linda Inglis, Rosemary & Sharon Keniry, Sylvia Kerr, David Lindsay, Jill Lummis, Lyndsey Nightingale-Jones, Ian Ramsay, Sylvia Robinson, Cheryl Rochford, Marjorie & Geoffrey White

### FROM THE VISITOR'S BOOK

People signing the book tell us a lot about who comes to the Museum and what they think. So far this year we have had visitors from China, Cape Town South Africa, Montreal Canada, California USA, and Fife Scotland. Also from the Gold Coast, Canberra, Berowra, Newcastle, St Ives, Kiama, Kempsey, Mollymook and The Blue Mountains. Closer to home we welcomed visitors from Penrith, Spring Farm, Gledswood Hills, Campbelltown, Mount Annan and Camden.

Some of the comments made:

Love H - Top Marks - Elegant Exhibition and interesting

It was lovely to visit my family history - Well Done

A very interesting and informative account of the history of the area

Great little Museum - Got a personalised tour! - we will be back

Great history and experience for the whole family

Great for exploration - a worthwhile visit

A lovely cool area to wonder around (from Australia Day)

### VISITORS TO THE MUSEUM FOR 2018

Adults 5,325 Children 1,405 Total 6,730

This is the highest total since 2013 with visitor numbers around this level over the past 4 years.

We have had a number of visitors come in after seeing segments on TV shows about Camden and the recent Jacaranda Festival also brought in over 120 more visitors on that weekend.

There were 296 people who came to the museum on Australia Day. Down from past years due to the day's extreme heat. Thank you to all the volunteers who helped out during the time we were open.

### The SOCIETY'S FACEBOOK

We now have 1900 followers on our page.

Recently placed on our Facebook are photos on Camden in the 1870's from our photo collection and items seen in the museum. Check it out and other great facts on the link.

[www.facebook.com/CamdenMuseum](http://www.facebook.com/CamdenMuseum)

### Volunteers Needed

**The society is always on the lookout for those who would like to lend a hand. It does not matter how small the contribution, every little bit makes a difference.**

**If helping out at the Museum appeals to you then see or call Bob Lester on 0406915225.**

**He will be able to fit you into the Society's programme.**

### NEW LOCATION FOR MUSEUM SIGN

The sign for the Museum has been repaired with four wheels now on it to make it easier to move in and out. Also the sign can be left just outside the main sliding doors into the Library to the left as you look at the doors. This will eliminate the need to carry the sign down the stairs. Please do not tie it up to the railing as this impacts people using the railing for support.

Many thanks



## 10 OCTOBER 2018 - DR IAN WILLIS & CATHEY SHEPHERD

On the night was our President and Vice President demonstrating how to use and access Trove as a research tool.

Find on Trove: Australian resources. Books, images, historic newspapers, maps, archives and more going back to the late 1800's to 1960.



Right: Ian Willis and Cathey Shepherd demonstrating Trove to the audience

## 14 NOVEMBER 2018 - TERRY GORDON

Terry has been a real estate agent for 53 years and has overseen Camden's development over those years. From a dairy farm community and coal mining town to sub-divisions in new suburbs.

At the age of 75, he is the longest serving employee in Inglis Real Estate, where he started his career in livestock sales at the Camden saleyards in 1965. He has no plans to retire.



## 12 DECEMBER 2018 - CHRISTMAS PARTY



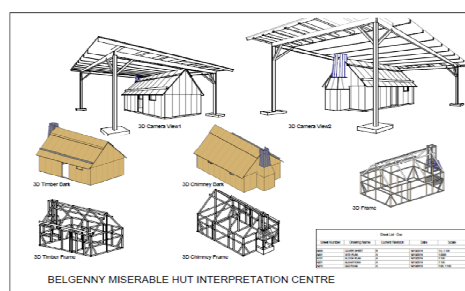
It was a full house for our last general meeting of the year 2018.

Frances Warner showed the members and guests her old record player and played some Christmas tunes and games for the party. Everyone got into the spirit of the season.

## 13 FEBRUARY 2019 - DR CAMERON ARCHER AM

### 2019 Focus on Belgenny Farm

Hut Project completed and opened  
 New Business model well in place  
 Electrical Upgrade underway  
 Belgenny Cottage interpretation  
 A new DPI Schools Program underway  
 Budget in place and confirmed  
 Books and reports completed on Hut  
 Other publications underway



## CAMDEN COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS COUNCIL RECEPTION

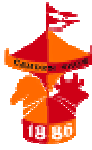
On Wednesday 5 December 2018, Camden Council gave a reception for all community groups at the Civic Centre.

Phillipa and Roger Percy were in charge of the catering and the Council as a sign of appreciation presented volunteers with a Christmas pudding and a scented candle.

We had 24 members attending the event.



## UPCOMING EVENTS



### The Camden Show Friday 5th - Saturday 6th April 2019 *'Still a Country Show'*

The show is still one of the largest and most popular events in the Macarthur District each year and has ranked in the top 5 Shows in NSW.

The Camden Show is run almost entirely by volunteers. It is run by the community, for the community.

#### OUR STAND AT THE SHOW:

If you would like to volunteer at this year's show, there will be a sheet on the front desk for you to put your name down. There are 2 hour slots over the 2 days events to choose from.



18 April - 19 May 2019

This year's festival will bring together an array of events across the nation.

Our theme this year is **Connecting People, Places and the Past.**

The Society will celebrate this event on the **8 May at our general meeting.** Members and guests are invited to speak about their connections to people in the community or from the past



44th Camden Art Prize is on **3 - 10 May 2019.**

**Venue:** Camden Civic Centre, Cnr Oxley & Mitchell Streets, Camden  
Aims of the Committee are to promote the visual arts within Camden Local Government Area and Macarthur Region. To broaden and stimulate community perception of art with particular reference to Australian works.

For more details on their website: [www.camdenartprize.com.au](http://www.camdenartprize.com.au)

## NEW ITEM DISPLAYED IN MUSEUM

A recent donation to Camden Museum with an intriguing name on the driver's door. "Sally Grady, Menangle". Made at Concord Repatriation Hospital by a returned soldier in 1945. The soldier is said to be Tom Martin, a former prisoner in Changi Prison. If anyone has information regarding Sally Grady or Tom Martin could you please contact:

John Wrigley OAM on Mobile: 0437 271 804

This Item is now on display upstairs in the Museum.

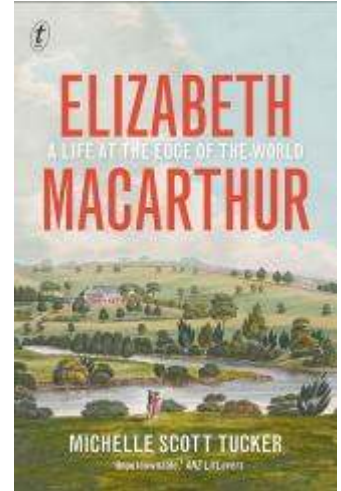


# ELIZABETH MACARTHUR PLAQUE COMMEMORATION

Woollahra Council invited members of the Camden Historical Society to attend the unveiling of a plaque commemorating the life of Elizabeth Macarthur installed in Robertson Park, Watsons Bay near the site 'Clovelly', the home in which she died. Guest speaker was Michelle Scott Tucker; author of *Elizabeth Macarthur : a life at the edge of the world*.

The plaque unveiling is part of Woollahra Council's celebration surrounding International Women's Day 2019.

Present on a very hot day were a number of descendants from Elizabeth Macarthur and 13 members from the Society. Following the ceremony Council provided refreshments.



L-R are: Dawn Williams, Lee Stratton, Kathy & Bob Lester, Julie & John Wrigley, Marilyn Willis, Anthea Russo, Roslyn Tildsley, Ian Willis and Brian Stratton taking photo



L-R are: Marilyn Willis, John Macarthur-Stanham, Michelle Scott Tucker and Edwina Macarthur-Stanham



The official ceremony was conducted near the rotunda in Robertson Park, Watson's Bay



## DONATIONS OF OBJECTS TO THE MUSEUM

Most of the objects on display at the Museum have been donated but because of shortage of space not all objects offered to the Museum are accepted. Local residents may be confused about what the Museum wants to collect.

### Objects the Camden Museum wants:

- Objects which have strong relevance to Camden..
- Photos of early Camden and items which show the way of life in Camden in the past.
- Items which are relevant to the Museum's displays.

### Objects the Camden Museum does not want:

- Objects which have no relevance to the Camden story.
- Old newspapers which are available online.
- Large items.

If you would like to offer a possible donation, call at the Museum and fill in a Donation Form. A committee member will contact you to discuss whether or not the item fits the collection policy of the Museum and tells the story of Camden and its district.

The provenance of any object makes it more significant, so the Society would like to know the name of the donor, the chain of ownership and details of the past use of the object. An object which has a story is of more interest to Museum visitors than one without.

*John Wrigley OAM, (mob. 0437 271 804)*

## NEW ITEMS IN CABINET OUTSIDE LIBRARY

Enclosed in the cabinet are 9 of the hats collected by Bruce Cunningham (1936 - 2018) on his travels to various parts of the world. Bruce liked to travel to remote places such as the Sepik River in New Guinea or Egypt, and often collected a hat from the places he visited.

Many thanks to Ellie, Bruce's wife, who has made available the hats for the display.

*This display is part of the Heritage Festival on People and Places from 18 April - 19 May 2019.*



Bruce served at Council for more than 30 years. He joined Camden Council in 1962 as Deputy Town Clerk. He served in that role for 17 years before being promoted to the Town Clerk role in 1979. He spent the final years of his career as council's General Manager, retiring in 1993.

Left: Bruce wearing one of his hats.



# CAMDEN HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC



PO Box 566  
Camden NSW 2570

Camden Museum & Camden Library  
40 John St, Camden.

General Admission Free

Opening Times

Thursday– Sunday 11.00am – 4.00 pm

Phone: Museum 02 4655 3400

<http://www.camdenhistory.org.au>

<http://camdenhistory.org.au/cmindex.html>

email: [secretary@camdenhistory.org.au](mailto:secretary@camdenhistory.org.au)

ABN 84 182 869 026

## The Camden Historical Society

The society was founded in 1957. Its aim is to promote the local history and heritage of Camden. It primarily does this through managing the Camden Museum which opened in 1970. General admission to the museum is free, although visitors are encouraged to leave a donation. The museum is conducted entirely by volunteers. It also receives substantial and continuing assistance from Camden Council.

### Historic Precinct

The museum is located in Camden's historic precinct. It is part of the Camden Library Museum Complex. It provides an ideal start for a walking tour of the town area where the visitor can observe the charm and character of the town centre.

### Research

The Society's archives are open to the public. General enquiries are free. Specific research by our volunteers attracts a \$15 fee plus photocopying. Extensive use of the Society's records is by negotiation.

### MEMBERSHIP 2018 –19

Individual \$15, Family \$20

**All donations to the Camden Historical Society Inc over \$2 are tax deductible. The accredited value of objects donated to the society are eligible for tax deduction.**

## SYDNEY WEEKENDER IN CAMDEN

On 14 October 2018 on Channel 7's Sydney Weekender where they showcased Camden with the local hotels, cafes and the Alan Baker Gallery. Two of our members were a part of the highlights; Roslyn Tildsley and Laura Jane Aulsebrook.



## ROAD WORKS IN JOHN & MITCHELL STREET CAMDEN

Council will be undertaking works to improve safety for pedestrians and motorists in the vicinity of this intersection. They will be installing new posts and a double barrier in front of the library for a children's crossing and at the front of St Paul's Catholic Church will be two new disabled parking areas. Also other adjustments on the streets. Works will commence early March, as night works.

**More information: [www.camden.nsw.gov.au](http://www.camden.nsw.gov.au)**

## WELFARE OFFICER REPORT

Hi everyone

Harry Warner is in hospital and I sent a card

Cheery get well cards have been sent to several members over the past few months.

I hear they are very much appreciated, so don't hesitate to contact me if you know of any member needing a bit of cheer! Email me with details on:

[suecross2570@gmail.com](mailto:suecross2570@gmail.com)

If you know of a member who needs extra help please contact Sue on her mobile:

**0414360076**

