



# Newsletter

## Museum Maintenance Meeting with Council re: Museum works

On January 14th, CHS committee members Ian Willis, Rene Rem, and Jo O'Brien met with Camden Council's General Manager Andrew Carfield, directors Casli Memed and Sandra Kubeka, and Matthew Riemann from Building Services, to discuss concerns regarding the construction works which began on December 2nd. The meeting was positive and co-operative as we discussed issues including ceiling leaks, construction schedule, dust, lift replacement, and future works, as well as the impact on volunteers, members, visitors and tour groups. Communication issues were noted, especially over the extent of the December works, which meant we had to shut the Museum at short notice.

**Leaks:** It appears flashing moved which caused the recent leak over the Sirius. Council staff later organised a platform to inspect the roof, and have now fixed the flashing and other issues.

**Lift replacement:** So far, the old lift has been removed, shaft reconstructed,

and electrical box moved. The lift itself is under construction off site. This will be ready for installation sometime after March, still to be confirmed. Temporary barriers will remain in place until then.

**Nixon Room repair/painting:** The council is awaiting a response from M&GNSW re packing and looking after the museum items, before organising this work

**Cleaning:** Fragile items will need professional cleaning after the works are complete.

It was agreed that future communications will be shared with us more directly and in writing.

It was clear that the GM and council officers value the Museum and the Society, and the work that we do, and how much the Museum is valued by the community.

Jo O'Brien

### Inside this issue:

Museum Maintenance	1
Australia Day Awards	1
Australia Day Parade	2
Volunteers	2
Australia Day	3
Former Camden Police Station	4

### General Meetings

- 12 February 2025
- 12 March 2025
- 9 April 2025
- 14 May 2025
- 11 June 2025
- 9 July 2025

Meetings are held on the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 7.00pm

40 John St, Camden.  
All welcome

Ph: (02) 4655 3400

## Australia Day 2025 Awards

In 2025 two Australia Day Awards went to members of the Camden Historical Society.

The 2025 Citizen of the Year was Jo O'Brien, society vice president.

The 2025 Arts and Cultural Award was won by Rene Rem, the society secretary and volunteer coordinator.

Dr Ian Willis OAM was also nominated for an award. (Image Brett Atkins)



All correspondence to: [secretary@camdenhistory.org.au](mailto:secretary@camdenhistory.org.au) • Editor: Dr Ian Willis OAM • President: Dr Ian Willis OAM • Vice Presidents: Jo O'Brien & John Wrigley OAM • Treasurer Fletcher Joss • Secretary: Rene Rem • Immediate Past President Ian Ramsay • General Committee: Frances Warner, Robert Wheeler, Peter Riordan, Julie Wrigley • Volunteer Co-Ord: Rene Rem • Webmaster: Warren Sims Facebook: Rene Rem

## Editor's Notes

### Speakers 2025

**February** : Dianne Smith

**March**: Andrew Allen

**April**: Shane Smith

**May**: Heritage Festival, theme is "Unearthed" speakers are members with their personal stories, anyone interested notify Rene', only to speak for no more than 5 minutes.

### Google Business Profile for January 2025

- 142 interactions on Google business page for CHS
- 4424 viewed Google business page with 65% coming from Google Maps, 18% from Google Search mobile.

### Notes

The editor hears rumours that Rene has been the subject of interest of a local artist and has been undertaking a number of sittings in the last few months.

Apparently Rene's face has a lot of character and portrays an empathetic understanding towards others.

There are strong rumours that his portrait may be hung somewhere prominent in the local area later in the year.

Rumours circulate that Rene has been a cooperative subject and the final image is nearing completion.

### Volunteers

#### Volunteer Coordinator Rene Rem

Are you interested in Camden's history? Would you like to know more? Come and join our team and volunteer at the Camden Museum. No need for any experience, training is provided. All you need is a smile and an ability to share

your passion for Camden with visitors. Volunteer with a friend. Make new friends. Contact 4655 3400 or secretary@camdenhistory.org.au or 40 John St, Camden.

The Museum always needs volunteers.

## 2025 Australia Day Parade



**Rene Rem in historic car donated by Max Boardman driving a 1929 Chevrolet Tourer.**

The parade formed up in the Camden Showground then passed along Argyle Street and John Street and returned to showground.

This image shows Rene with the car before the parade started.

(Brett Atkins)

**Jo O'Brien in the lead car in the 2025 Australia Day Parade as 2025 Citizen of the Year.**

This image has been taken in John Street.

(I Willis)



# Australia Day 2025



District 201 N2

## MACARTHUR LIONS CLUB INC

Incorporated – ABN 68 997 010 587

macarthur.nsw@lions.org.au

PO BOX 337  
CAMDEN  
NSW

President  
Alan Dean

Secretary  
Jaidyn Wickham

### MACARTHUR LIONS CLUB AUSTRALIA DAY STREET PARADE SUNDAY 26TH JANUARY 2025



Renee

The President, Lion Alan Dean and members of the Macarthur Lions Club wish to thank you for your participation in this year's Australia Day Parade, a particularly special occasion in allowing our community the personal opportunity to reflect as to where we are each 26<sup>th</sup> January and to embrace our community services groups who have exhibited personal sacrifice, courage & dedication.

Should you have any suggestions as to improvements to this event, the Lion's Club would appreciate your comments,

We wish you well for the coming year and hope you will again support our event next year.

Yours sincerely,

Lion Ted Gillroy  
Macarthur Lions Club Australia Day Parade Coordinator  
Email: [elgillroy@gmail.com](mailto:elgillroy@gmail.com)  
Mobile: 0412 674 324

# 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

## **MEMBERSHIP 2024-2025**

Individual \$20, Family \$25

## 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.

**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.**

## Former Camden Police Barracks

The former Camden Police Station, located on John Street in Camden, holds significant historical importance as a representation of policing in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

Built in the 1878, it reflects the period's architectural style, showcasing Victorian design elements. Probably designed by the colonial architect James Barnet.

The station was pivotal in maintaining law and order in Camden, a burgeoning country town.

Its operations contributed to the development of local policing practices and community relations.

Following its closure, the site has remained vacant and is awaiting its adaptive reuse for its successful heritage conservation.



(Image: I Willis 2024)