



NEWSLETTER

WELCOME TO OUR NEW PRESIDENT - IAN RAMSAY

INTRODUCTION

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself to the members of the Camden Historical Society.

On 9th December 2020 I was elected as your new President and I am fully aware that the standards set by the previous office bearers are high and I will do everything to maintain those standards.



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CAREER

My working career has been mixed and varied. In 2013, following a military (Army) career I was medically discharged. After my discharge I returned to my previous position with the Australian Public Service (APS) where I remained until I retired in 2016.

There was a time where I had planned on becoming a strata manager however this did not eventuate. However, I am a qualified strata manager and I use this skill in my capacity as the Chairman of a large complex in Port Macquarie. I have held this position for over 10 years.

INTERESTS

My interest in history goes back to my time at school and my first involvement in historical societies extends back to Tamworth when I became a member aged 14 years.

I am a strong advocate of the preservation of our past and I have a special interest in our long and proud military history.

Without doubt photography is a very strong passion which is a blend of writing and photography.

In the past I had a very good business arrangement with a publisher where I photographed street machines and provided the text for the article.

I have since rejuvenated this practice which today is more online based.

I envisage that I will be able to utilise these skills within CHS.

PERSONAL LIFE

Rhonda and I have been married for the past 20 years. We were both married previously and as such we have 5 children between us and a number of grandchildren. My claim to fame is that I now have two great-grandchildren.

CONCLUSION

It is my intention to ensure that Camden Historical Society and Museum maintain a high community profile and also to further promote that profile.

May I sincerely thanks the CHS Committee in their confidence in my ability to be your President and I look forward to the continued support you have offered to the betterment of the Society.

Ordinary General Meetings 2021

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

Meetings are held on the
2nd Wednesday of the
month at 7.30 pm

40 John St, Camden.
All welcome

Ph: (02) 4655 3400

All correspondence to Secretary: secretary@camdenhistory.org.au • Editor: Lee Stratton • President: Ian Ramsay
Vice Presidents: Warren Sims & John Wrigley OAM • Treasurer Fletcher Joss • Secretary: Lee Stratton • Immediate Past
President Doug Barrett • General Committee: Rene Rem, Frances Warner, Robert Wheeler, Dawn Williams, Ian Willis OAM
Julie Wrigley • Volunteer Co-Ord: Cheryl Rochford • Webmaster: Warren Sims Facebook: Rene Rem

A MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT IAN RAMSAY

2020 has been the most difficult year for all Societies and for us most of our activities were curtailed by Council acting on Government regulations.

As our premises is on Council property we were not allowed to have General or Committee meetings or allow people wishing to do research on site.

With the easing of COVID-19, we were delighted to re-open the museum on 12 November 2020 with floor markers to help with social distancing, sanitisers and a system of recording visitor contact details.

We anticipate we will re-open on Thursday 7 January 2021. We also anticipate (subject to the latest regulations) our first General Meeting on 10 February at 7.30pm with our guest speaker, Dianne Matterson who will talk on her project researching early businesses in Argyle Street, Camden.

On behalf of the Committee I would like to wish our members a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and look forward to a more productive 2021 for the Society.



Above is President Ian Ramsay selfie dressed for work in a shopping centre

RESIGNATION OF DOUG BARRETT

Doug stood down from the post of President on 6th November 2020 after serving a period of some 14 months.

After Ian Willis OAM completed his term as President, the Society had a problem when no one expressed an interest in taking his place. Doug was prevailed upon and agreed to fulfil the position.

It has been a difficult time for leaders to navigate groups through the frustrations, restrictions imposed on all by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Doug, on behalf of the members we thank you for helping us in our hour of need and in return Doug would like to thank the membership for their support.



**CELEBRATING 200 YEARS
THE FOUNDING OF CAMPBELLTOWN
AND THE MACQUARIES
28th November 2020**

The 1st of December 2020 is an important milestone in the history of Campbelltown. 1820 marked the founding by Governor Macquarie when he proclaimed the town after his wife, Elizabeth, maiden name Campbell.

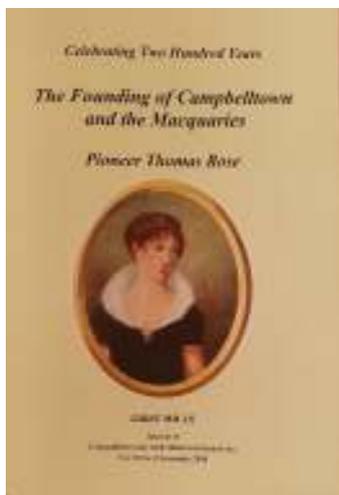
To celebrate the occasion the Campbelltown & Airds Historical Society staged a morning tea at their Glenalvon Historical House in extreme heat with COVID-19 seating and restrictions in place.

The key note speaker was Tom Reeve, a member of the CAHS, who gave an informative talk concentrating on Thomas Rose (1773-1837), one of the most successful local pioneer farmers.

The Rose name is remembered today with the suburb Rosemeadow, Thomas Rose Drive and Rose Street in Campbelltown.

Surrounding Historical Societies, Appin, Camden and Liverpool were in attendance and we were represented by Life Members Julie and John Wrigley OAM, Rene Rem and Lee and Brian Stratton OAM.

** A copy of the Grist Mills journal is available on the front desk in the museum.



Left: Journal
Right: Lee Stratton with Tom Reeve
Below: John & Julie Wrigley with Tom Reeve
Below right: a display of Campbell and Macquarie Tartans and information on Campbelltown



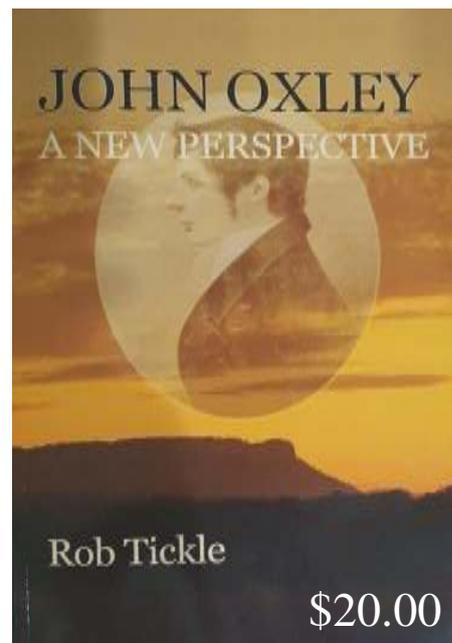
NEW BOOK AVAILABLE IN THE MUSEUM

This immaculately and painstakingly researched book, through its biographers of Oxley, Evans, Fraser and Harris explains the impulses that drove these men to explore and map the colony, to collect, identify and categorise its flora. But it succeeds in doing more than that because it also elucidates the motivations that drove them to become colonial entrepreneurs, farmers and businessmen, who, in the pursuit of individual wealth advanced colonial prosperity.

This important book makes an invaluable contribution to our understanding of Australia's European origins.

Reviewed by:

Emeritus Professor Richard Waterhouse FAHA FASSA
School of Philosophical and Historical Inquiry,
University of Sydney, NSW Australia 2006



JANICE JOHNSON BEQUESTS UPDATE

The late Janice Johnson, a former secretary of the Camden Historical Society, left money for the Society to place cast bronze plaques on six gravesites in the cemetery of the St John's Anglican Church. Janice was a local historian, well known for her tours of the St John's Cemetery. Janice saw these graves as significant. She wanted their inscriptions preserved and known.

The Property Trust of the Anglican Church has given approval to proceed. As St John's Church is listed as a State Heritage Item we needed to obtain an exemption from the Heritage Council of NSW on the grounds that the activity will not adversely affect the heritage significance of the item. We are pleased that the approval from the Heritage Council has now been received.

The plaques will use the same wording as on the graves originally but improve the legibility of the inscriptions on the headstones. Each plaque will be placed on a grey granite sloper centred at the foot of the grave. To arrange the plaques on the gravesites, Heritage Monumental Mason, Peter Raksts Memorials Pty Ltd has provided the Camden Historical Society with a quotation which has been accepted by the Committee.

In November, the last approval was obtained from Camden Council. The Council accepted the Society's request asking for exemption from requiring development consent. The plaques have been cast. So the project is just waiting for the granite (which has been ordered) to be finalised.

John Wrigley
December 2020

MUSEUM WILL BE CLOSED AUSTRALIA DAY 2021

The Macarthur Lions Club has cancelled the Australia Day Street Parade for 2021 due to COVID-19 restrictions.

And as such, the museum will not open on that day.

**Camden Council will have online activities at:

<https://www.camden.nsw.gov.au/whats-on/major-events/australia-day/>



Editor's Notes

Upcoming Talks 2021

10 February - Dianne Matterson will talk on her research into early businesses on Argyle Street Camden (depending on restrictions)

The SOCIETY'S FACEBOOK

We now have over 2600 followers on our page.

The latest images are changed regularly and show some of Camden and Districts history. Check it out and other great facts on this link.

www.facebook.com/CamdenMuseum

MEMBERS in SOCIETY

FOR YEAR ENDING 12 / 2020
8 Life Members and 100 Members

Volunteers Needed

*The society is always on the lookout for those who would like to lend a hand. If helping out at the Museum appeals to you see or call **Cheryl Rochford on 0419682158.***

VOLUNTEER CO-ORDINATOR REPORT

For November's attendance we had 178 come through the Museum which was down in comparison to this time last year, but affected by closure because of Covid 19. On the 16th and 17th November we had visits from WANI Active Care group consisting of 60 adults. I would like to thank Rene and Lee for helping out on those days. I am sure that we will see this group again in 2021.

For December's attendance we had 126 visitors until we closed on the 13 December for the Christmas/New Year break. The museum will re-open on Thursday 7 January 2021 at 11am.

In the next couple of weeks I will be updating the roster for 2021 and sending it out to all volunteers via email, or by post for those who do not have email access.

At this time, I would like to thank the volunteers for their support and wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a safe and Happy New Year . Cheryl

WORKING WITH CHILDREN REGISTRATION WITH RMS NSW

If you are on the roster, it is a requirement for everyone who works or volunteers in child-related work in NSW to be registered. There is no charge involved. If you do not have an email or website, please organise a time with Cheryl at the museum and she will help you. Or visit the Service Centre at Gregory Hills and they will also assist you.

Apply for your check or renew your WWC on this website:

<https://wwccheck.cyp.nsw.gov.au/Applicants/Application>

Fill out the form online with your proof of I.D. WWC number will be emailed to you.

Could you then give a copy to Cheryl for filing. Many thanks

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Email editor@tdr.com.au or call on **02 4655 1234** Thank you to everyone who has contacted us and offered their support.

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

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 2020 / 2021

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.

CABINET DISPLAY Camden Chemist

The items in the cabinet have been donated by the family of Peter Oxford (1932-2019), who owned the chemist at 91 Argyle Street, Camden since 1978.

Peter died in 2019 and is survived by his wife Margaret, his son Robert, his daughter Louise and their families.



WELFARE OFFICER REPORT



I would like to wish everyone a Happy Christmas and every good wish for 2021.

I have sent get well cards to the following members:

Donald and Nan Howard

Margaret Wheeler

Harry Warner

(Frances & Harry Warner are moving into Carrington Aged Care soon)

My Contact details are:

Email: janetsg@bigpond.com

Mobile: 0490 146 533

