



# **NEWSLETTER**

## **Museum Maintenance** **Museum works conducted by Camden Council**



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### **The Lift**

The lift has successfully been installed and working well. Volunteers need to remember to put in the two keys, one upstairs, one downstairs, at the beginning of your shift and remove at the end of the shift.

### **The Nixon Room**

Wayne Gallagher, Team Leader Building Services, Camden Council, who is supervising the works advises

The scope of works for the Nixon room is –

1. Completely seal the entrance in to the Nixon room to contain all dust / debris and potentially use the rear staircase entrance as point of entry as minimal materials will be required on a daily basis.
2. Remove the cracked wall render and patch.
3. Remove water damaged ceiling timbers and replace with new. Seal the

gaps in between the ceiling timbers.

4. Original scope called for the stripping of the paint off the ceiling timbers, however a quicker and easier solution is to seal the existing paint and recoat – this will be discussed with the successful contractor.

5. Repaint the ceiling and walls.

International Conservation Services inspected the proposed works on Wednesday 17 September.

ICS are preparing a quote to pack up and clean the exhibits and replace at the end of the works. It is envisaged that all exhibits will remain in the museum during the works.

The works will take a number of weeks and including packing up and replacing exhibits. During this period the museum will closed.

Details of the closure and re-opening will be posted on the Camden Museum Facebook page and email.

### **General Meetings**

- 8 October 2025
- 12 November 2025
- 10 December 2025
- 11 February 2026

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

40 John St, Camden. All welcome

During closure meeting places will be advised on Camden Museum Facebook and email.

Ph: (02) 4655 3400

## **Atrium Exhibit - Sydney Olympics 2000**

**Julie Wrigley writes:** In the glass case in the foyer near the front desk of the Camden Library there is a display of a small part of the collection including an Olympics t-shirt and windcheater, Swatch watch, tie and socks, badges, the small suitcase, and Warren Fusedale’s hat. Warren had collected one large archive box containing twenty labelled vertical files of documents, and another large archive box of items containing clothing, badges and one of the yellow suitcases given to the audience at the Opening Ceremony. The late Warren Fusedale (1941 – 2023), of Cobbitty, was a long-standing volunteer at the Museum. He was one of many Camden’s residents who volunteered at the 2000 Sydney Olympics.



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

## Editor's Notes

Volunteers

### Lots of help from lots of volunteers

Since Rene's passing the vacuum that was left behind has been filled by many temporary helpers.

Volunteer co-ordination by Dawn Williams and Leonie Jackson and for a short period Dianne Smith

Secretary Fletcher Joss

Camden Museum Facebook page Jo O'Brien

Buses Peter Riordan

School Groups Trish Clark, Kellee Cordina,

Volunteers Manual and other things Dianne Matterson

## History Week Exhibit - 'A River Runs Through It'

### Jo O'Brien writes:

With the theme *Water Stories*, the Nepean River was an obvious choice for History Week 2025.

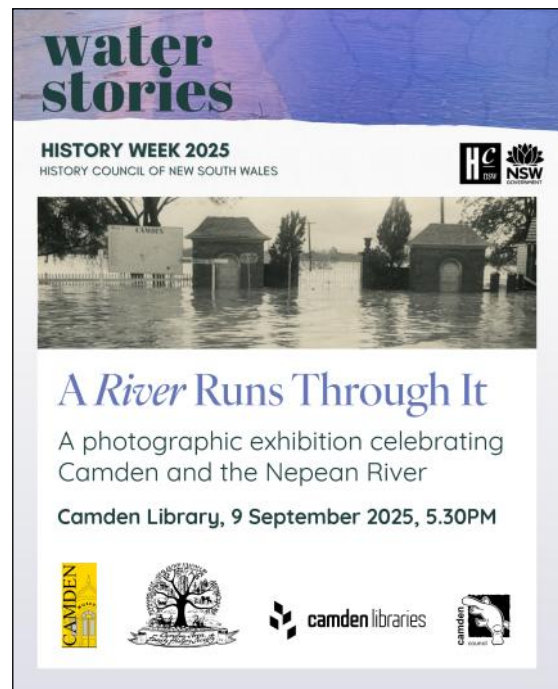
This new photographic exhibition features pictures of Nepean River floods over the years, shown with large images of the Camden Historic Flood Marker from the Nepean River Trail, accompanied by a map of the Nepean River winding through the town. Framed images show the recreational use of the river in more peaceful times.

The exhibition was officially opened on Tuesday September 9 at a free twilight event, where attendees admired the photographs and large wall panels, while enjoying light refreshments and local musicians The Honey Sippers.

The team from the Argyle Streetscape exhibition; Camden Library Local Studies Librarian Pauline Kidd, Jo O'Brien from Camden Area Family History Society and Camden Historical Society, Roger Percy from Alan Baker Art Gallery, and Dianne Matterson from Camden Historical Society; have again collaborated to produce this fascinating insight into the relationship between Camden and the Nepean River. Many thanks to Camden Council and Camden Library for their support.

A 20 page booklet provides contemporary newspaper reports and stories to accompany the exhibition, along with details of the photographs from Camden Images and the CHS files. Copies of this booklet will be for sale at Camden Museum. Pictures and stories from the exhibition are also featuring on the Camden Museum Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/CamdenMuseum>

The exhibition continues throughout September in The Old Fire Station at Camden Library.



The opening of the exhibition with Pauline Kidd from Camden Library and Jo O'Brien from Camden Historical Society (Kellee Cordina)

## Unlock Camden 2025



**John Street with old cars outside the Alan Baker Art Gallery Macaria (2025 Brett Atkins)**



**Stalls in the Camden Library function room included Camden Area Family History Society, Camden Historical Society, and Friends of Belgenny Farm (2025 Kellee Cordina)**

### **Jo O'Brien writes:**

On Saturday September 6, Camden's History was celebrated in John Street with the annual Unlock Camden Heritage Festival.

There were plenty of things to see and do, including history displays and information, garden games, steam museum, vintage cars, period costumes, artists, music, food, and market stalls.

The CWA cake stall was in Macaria, and there were walking tours with Jo O'Brien and Laura Jane Aulsebrook. Camden Museum had plenty of visitors, and the various displays throughout the Galleria and Old Fire Station were popular, including Camden Area Family History Society, Friends of Belgenny Farm, and author Kellee Cordina.

A video of the event can be viewed here: <https://www.facebook.com/camdencouncil/videos/1141484021167737>

# 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 2024-2025

Individual \$20, Family \$25

**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 Cottage Hospital

Camden Cottage Hospital, established between 1899 and 1902, was a vital healthcare institution serving the Camden community during the turn of the 20th century. Located in a picturesque rural setting, the hospital was designed to provide accessible medical care to residents of the surrounding area, reflecting the period's growing emphasis on public health and community welfare. The hospital's architecture was modest yet functional, featuring a combination of traditional Victorian influences with practical design elements aimed at promoting hygiene and patient comfort.

During its early years, Camden Cottage Hospital operated as a small, community-focused facility, primarily offering outpatient services, basic surgical procedures, and inpatient care for common illnesses and injuries.

Throughout 1899-1902, Camden Cottage Hospital became a cornerstone of local healthcare, earning respect and trust within the community. Its establishment marked a significant step toward modernizing rural healthcare services, laying the groundwork for future medical advancements and community health improvements in the Camden area.



**Edithville, 18 Mitchell Street, Camden formerly Camden Cottage Hospital 1899-1902. (I Willis 2024)**