



NEWSLETTER

SOCIETY'S DIAMOND JUBILEE

THE highlight of 2017 will be the celebration of our 60th anniversary.
Camden Historical Society Foundation: 24 July 1957

This will be a milestone in the history of the Society and whilst it is our aim to preserve the history of the community, we have with every passing year become more entrenched as an important component of the district's history itself.

An ad hoc committee comprising Rene Rem, Cathey Shepherd, Dawn Williams and Lee Stratton have been in preliminary discussions on how to celebrate the event, with the committee finalising matters in the near future.

To mark the occasion our President and journal editor Dr Ian Willis will be publishing a special edition of our journal. He is looking for contributions from members and asking them to be a bit philosophical in answering these questions:

- What does the Society mean to you?
- What has the Society done for you?
- Has the Society done anything for you?

If you feel you can contribute to this important edition with words and/or images please contact Ian on:

Phone: 02 4658 0193 or Email: iwillis804@gmail.com

You can also leave information at the museum for him.

Inside this issue:

Jubilee and talk	1
Editor's Notes	2
Camden Show	2
Talks	3
Volunteer's night	4
Outback NSW Trip	4
New cabinet display	5
Australia Day	5
	6
	6

Ordinary General Meetings 2017

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

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

40 John St, Camden.
All welcome

Ph: (02) 4655 3400

THE COWPASTURES by Dr Ian Willis

At the February's general meeting the speaker will be Dr Ian Willis and his talk will be on 'The Cowpastures, just like an English landscape'. Here is a summary:

The early colonial European settlers in the Cowpastures were the key players in the story of creating an English-style landscape along the Nepean River. The settlers took possession of the countryside from the Dharawal Aboriginal people and re-made it in their own vision of the world. The new landscape was characterised by English placenames, English farming methods and English settlement patterns, with only cursory acknowledgement of indigenous occupation. The early settlers had such a profound impact on the countryside that their legacy is still clearly identifiable today even after 200 years.

It will be another interesting night.

All correspondence to Secretary, secretary@camdenhistory.org.au • Editors: Lee Stratton & Bob Lester

Camden Historical Society, PO Box 566, Camden. 2570 • Museum (02) 4655 3400

President: Dr Ian Willis • Vice Presidents: Cathey Shepherd ; John Wrigley OAM • Treasurer Dawn Williams • Secretary: Lee Stratton 47748005 • Immediate Past President Bob Lester, General Committee: Sharon Greene, Rene Rem, Roslyn Tildsley, Stephanie Trenfield, Robert Wheeler, Julie Wrigley Webmaster: Steve Robinson Facebook: Brett Atkins

Editor's Notes

Upcoming speakers 2017

8 February - Dr Ian Willis - The Cowpastures, just like an English landscape

8 March - Member's Show and Tell

12 April - Maurice Augustyn - Warragamba Dam

12 July - Daphne Lowe Kelley - Her Grandfather's family were Chinese market gardeners in Camden

** the above speakers/topics are subject to change

The Committee is seeking possible speakers in

VOLUNTEER UPDATES

Welcome to our new volunteers:

Maurice and Kay Augustyn from Warragamba

Farewell:

Our long term volunteers Lionel and Wendy Stein. Thank you for your many years of service to the Society. They have resigned due to family ill health. Lionel is a direct descendant of the original German family brought over by William Macarthur for the local wine industry. We wish them well.

Volunteers required:

If you have a friend who you would like to share a coffee/tea and conversation, invite them to be a volunteer at the Museum for 2½ hours one day per month. We are currently specifically looking to fill a Friday afternoon and a Sunday morning on the roster. Please contact our Volunteer Coordinator Rene Rem on 0424 847 492 for further details.

VISITORS TO THE MUSEUM IN 2016

The total for the last 3 months is 1114. This includes school and community groups. Total for 2016 is 6631, up 1% from 2015.

MACARTHUR GRAPEVINE

There is a new tourism initiative called the Macarthur Grapevine. It is designed to encourage and inspire our local community to explore and discover their own region. Check it out on the following link:

www.macarthurgrapevine.com.au

The SOCIETY'S FACE BOOK

We have recently placed on Facebook photos and information of 'Sirius' and Anzac memorabilia. Check it out and other great facts on the following link.

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 Rene on 0424847492. He will be able to fit you into the Society's programme.

CAMDEN SHOW 31 MARCH - 1 APRIL 2017



The show is on again and the Society will take part in this celebration of local produce, talent and awards in various categories. We will have a table with some of our publications and articles for sale. Anyone interested in helping out please contact Rene on 0424847492 and we will also have a list on the front desk in the museum to add your name.

On the right is our table from 2016 in the pavilion.



OCTOBER 13 TALK WITH STEPHANIE TRENFIELD

At our October General Meeting we were fortunate to have a member of our Committee step in at short notice to give an informative talk on her visit to Mongolia. She talked about her experiences and everyone was unexpectedly surprised how she coped in that environment.

Stephanie was in Mongolia for 6 months from August 2009, helping a missionary family home school their four children and in the interim became absolutely fascinated with its history and culture

She has a Bachelors in Arts Ancient History and currently completing Masters of Cultural Heritage and Museum Studies.

Stephanie is a valuable asset to the museum and Committee.



Stephanie Trenfield

NOVEMBER 10 TALK WITH ANDREW ALLEN (the History Buff)

Andrew's talk on Lost Buildings of Campbelltown was both fascinating and sad. He has started to detail the loss of Campbelltown heritage buildings in his blog.

Link to his talk:

<https://camdenhistorynotes.wordpress.com/2016/11/11/lost-campbelltown-heritage/>

One subject in his talk was on the local hotels:

Hotels are an ancient institution offering hospitality for the traveller. They provided comfort and shelter, a place to do business, a place to create wealth, a meeting place and a place to rest. In the past they have provided warmth, safety and a good meal from the elements. Hotels in Campbelltown did all of this and their loss has been a tragedy to many from the local community. But not all have disappeared. The buildings might still exist but they changed to other uses for other purposes. One of those was the Jolly Miller Hotel.

The Jolly Miller Hotel was built in the late 1840s at the southern end of Queen Street opposite Kendall's Mill. The hotel was opened by George Fieldhouse who had followed his convict father to New South Wales in 1828. George's two sons William and Edwin Hallett opened a general store next to the hotel in 1853. This building, which later became the offices for the Campbelltown and Ingleburn News, is still standing opposite McDonald's restaurant in Queen Street.



The Jolly Miller Hotel at the southern end of Queen Street (History Buff)

DECEMBER 8 TALK WITH WEN DENARO

There was a premier screening of Wen's DVD *'100 Yards of Silk'* on the Chinese Market Gardeners in Camden in the 20th century. The display is complete upstairs in the Nixon Room at the museum. Our Christmas Party followed the presentation.



Wen Denaro (right) talking to the general meeting on her DVD '100 Yards of Silk'



Story board upstairs in the museum

CAMDEN COUNCIL VOLUNTEER'S NIGHT - 7 DECEMBER 2016



John and Julie Wrigley



View of the room

Camden Council invited volunteers from the wide ranging groups that benefit the well being of the community.

We were represented by 15 of our members who enjoyed the well catered function.

All present received a gift from the Council of a Christmas pudding and/or a Camden calico bag with a variety of treats inside.

The Mayor, Lara Symkowiak thanked everyone for their efforts on behalf of the community.



Robyn Watson, Ian Willis, Linda Jackson and Gordon Bird



Roger Percy assisting with catering

TRUNDLE TO PEAK HILL ROAD TRIP with ANNE MCINTOSH

Anne McIntosh, a member of the Society is planning a trip to Central West NSW some time between February and May 2017.

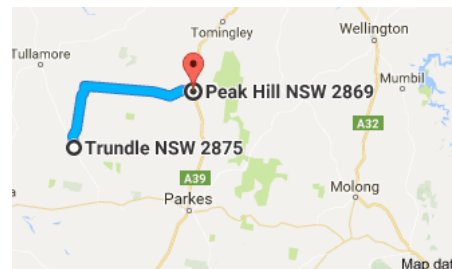
The ultimate destinations are Trundle and Peak Hill. These towns are small country outposts that were once greater. Trundle is known for its wide street and pub, the latter for a now closed open-cut gold mine. Both are notable because no-one from the Society has visited recently. Other places that we are likely to be included are Bathurst, Gulgong, Lithgow, Parkes and Wellington.

The trip will involve people travelling independently in their own cars with activities scheduled. The aim is to share the experience, see what other similar groups have been doing in their local areas, and by travelling together, access presenters and be able to have venues opened especially for our visit.

Efforts will be made to keep costs low by staying in pubs or caravan parks. You can choose to stay away from the group (eg. with friends/relatives or at another hotel), but will need to finalise and notify your plans. The costs of most activities will be known in advance. These are optional - except where a 'deal' has been done that is based on numbers participating. You do not have to be a member of the Society to participate.

Anne thanks everyone who gave her feedback on the survey. An itinerary should be ready for the February general meeting.

Contact Anne on Email: amc67497@bigpond.net.au



Above: Trundle main street Below: Peak Hill railway station



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

MEMBERSHIP 2016 –17

Individual \$15, Family \$20

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.



The Society once more expresses our appreciation to Max Boardman for the loan of the vintage ute to be included in the Macarthur Lions Street Parade along Argyle Street. Thank you to John and Julie Wrigley who have for many years represented us in the parade.

On this occasion the museum will be open from an earlier time of 9.30 am to 4.00 pm.



NEW ITEMS IN MUSEUM CABINET

Recently John and Julie Wrigley have created a new and informative display cabinet outside the library main entrance on 'Milk and the Macarthurs, the dairy history of Camden Park'.



The Camden Historical Society would like to acknowledge the assistance of the Hon Angus Taylor MP in the printing of this newsletter.