



THE CAMDEN VALLEY VOICE

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The Camden Area Family History Society Inc.

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Christmas in John St Camden 2017

Christmas in Camden.

The weather during the holidays has been fine and not oppressively hot, the thermometer registering from 80 to 90deg., with refreshing breezes after sundown. No rain has fallen to mar the pleasure of the very many picnic parties. Argyle street was particularly alive on Xmas eve, and the shops and business houses were kept busy until a late hour, the attractions were many and various, and a happy meeting of many old faces who seldom come to town. There was not the slightest disturbance of any kind whatsoever, all seeming happy and comfortable. The account of the Boxing Day sports appear in another portion of the paper.

From the Camden News

Thursday 30th December 1897



From the Editor

It is with much sadness that we acknowledge the passing of Len English. Len has been a stalwart member of the Society for many, many years and if I am correctly informed, was one of the original founding member of CAFHS. At 86 years of age, Len lived his whole life in the Camden district with family connections back to Camden's pioneering families.

To all our members please have a very merry Christmas and a happy and safe new year. Until we meet again next year, may all your surprises be pleasant..

As usual any members who have articles for both the next edition of Camden Calling and February's Valley Voice please send them to me at w.sims@bigpond.net.au or cafhs2570@gmail.com all submissions will be greatly appreciated.

***Happy Birthday
To the following members
For December 2017***

- Rex Dowle 18th Dec
- Rosemary Gibson 7th Jan
- Sylvia Hansen 29th Dec
- Margaret Hughes 13th Dec
- Kathleen Kyle 2nd Dec
- Susan Press 17th Dec
- Susan Smith 28th Dec
- Kay Trigg 10th Jan

And Life Member
Brian Burnett 17th Dec



**Camden Area Family History Society
Inc.**

**Research Room, Library/Museum
Complex, John St. Camden**

The research room is currently open

Thursday 10:00am to 3:00pm

Friday 10:00am to 3:00pm

Saturday 9:30am to 12:00 noon

**There is a charge of \$10.00 per
session for non-members to use our
resources,**

There is a volunteer on duty whenever the research room is open. They are only too happy to assist with any inquires.

**If you would like to volunteer to assist
in the research room please contact the**

MEETINGS

Our meetings are held on the first Tuesday of the month (except January) at 7:30pm in the Meeting Room of the Library/Museum Complex, John St. Camden.

To help cover the cost of supper we ask for a gold coin donation.

Visitors most welcome.

MEMBERSHIP

SUBSCRIPTIONS ARE NOW DUE

| | |
|---------------|------------------------------|
| Normal | Pensioners/Concession |
| Single \$30 | Single \$25 |
| Couple \$35 | Couple \$30 |



CAMDEN AREA FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY General Meeting

At this month's meeting we will be having a brief business meeting followed by "Party Night" so please feel free to bring along a plate however some Christmas party food will be provided.

The Camden Area Family History Society rooms at Camden Library will be closed from Sunday 17th December and will reopen on Thursday 8th February 2018.

Members of CAFHS attended a Christmas dinner at Macarthur TAFE on Wednesday 22nd November and enjoyed an excellent meal and service provided by local TAFE Students. Well done Macarthur TAFE

For Your Diary

Don't Forget.....Bunnings Narellan - Sausage Sizzle

On Sunday 21st January 2018, CAFHS will be holding their annual Sausage Sizzle to help raise funds for the Society. This event is one of our major Fund Raisers for the year and we ask all those who can help to speak to Ray or Tony to advise their availability. Along with raising a substantial portion of our funding for the year, we generally have a lot of fun doing it.

Yass & District Historical Society Inc -

If you have received this email you have attended or expressed interest in the past, in weekends of an historical or Irish interest that were organised by Dr Richard Reid and Cheryl Mongan at St Clement's. We have also included in this mail-out local and family history societies that will find this weekend of interest as they explore new and different ways to ensure their longevity.

This weekend will continue the theme of our April 2017 examining Australian history in all its facets and its presentation to modern audiences through museums, seminars, technology and publications and the interaction between historians and family historians.

The conference will have three keynote speakers Dr Ann Herraman from the Mt Lofty Districts Historical Society will present innovative ideas to invigorate historical groups and communities, Prof Mark McKenna from the University of Sydney will speak about his research for his award winning publication 'Looking for Blackfella's Point' while Dr Mathew Trinca, Director of the National Museum of Australia will present the final paper 'Object, Places, People: Reconnecting History and Heritage in



Communities'. They lead an impressive group of speakers who will inspire us to ensure the survival of our history in its many forms. For societies it is examine your strategies for keeping your stories alive and having a voice in the discussion.

How will museums, archives, historical and family history groups of today survive the pressures of such rapid change and aging/declining memberships? We might live in a digital age but we must not lose sight of the past and the value history contributes to our communities. During the weekend our speakers will address this and other aspects of keeping history alive and within the public gaze. Due to the interest in our Sunday morning forum session we have scheduled more time for discussion and presentations by interested societies. We encourage you to book a spot to tells us of your successes and even dilemmas that other participants may be able to assist with. This program has something for everyone interested in Australian history. It is not all serious talk with a candle-lit dinner in historic *Galong House* and musical entertainment.

With so much to be discussed and learned local and family history groups might consider sending a delegate to this important gathering. We have included a brochure and registration form should you be able to join us for what promises to be a great weekend.

If you missed our last conference the papers are available for purchase for \$40.00 per copy plus postage of \$15.00. It is a fully illustrated(colour) 203 page record of the papers given by sixteen speakers.

Please see our website www.yasshistory.org.au and follow the link on the homepage to *Whole Histories* for fuller details of the weekend and to download further brochures and registration forms. Don't forget to visit our new Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/yassdistricthistoricalsociety> for regular updates on the event and our Instagram page <https://www.instagram.com/yassdistricthistoricalsociety/>.

Please circulate to your members, friends and others with an interest in Australian history.

Sincerely,

Cheryl Mongan
President
Yass & District Historical Society Inc

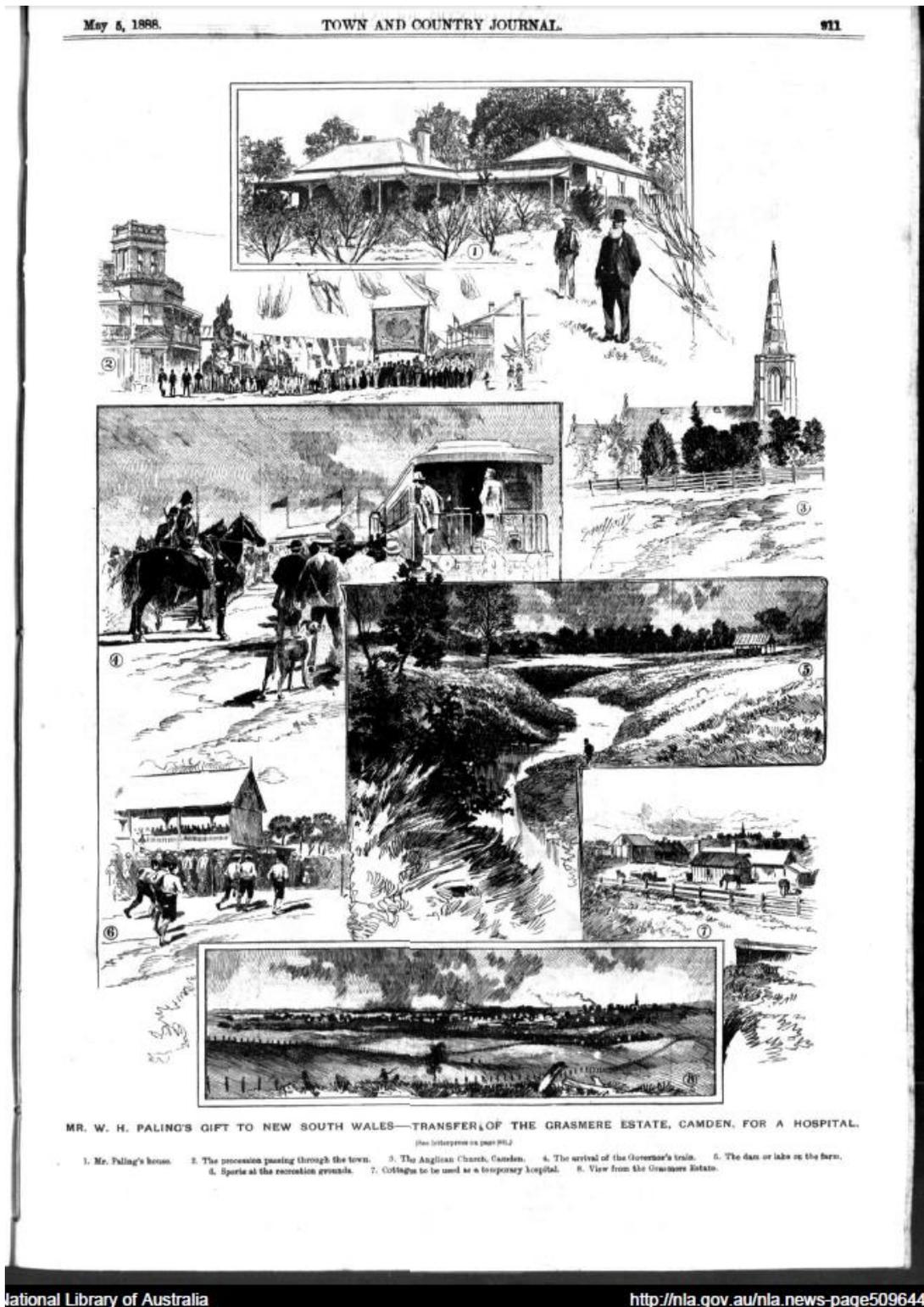
CARRINGTON Centennial Hospital, Grassmere

In 1888, William Henry Paling, a wealthy businessman and philanthropist, generously donated his 500 acre 'Grasmere' property worth £20,000 complete with stock, dairy, irrigation appliances, and two cottages, plus £10,000 to the people of NSW, in order to establish the Carrington Centennial Hospital for Convalescents and Incurables at Camden.

The Governor of the day was Lord Carrington and the Deed of Gift was presented to him for the Centenary of the Colony.



When the Carrington Centennial Hospital was opened in August 1890 it was the first public convalescent hospital built in NSW. The historic sandstone/brick building is a landmark in the Camden area, and is an icon for the 'Excellence in Care' that has been so much a part of Carrington for over 125 years.





Bridging the Past & Future
SYDNEY 2018

Congress 2018
15th Australasian
Congress on
Genealogy and
Heraldry

Friday 9 - Monday 12 March 2018 • International Convention Centre, Sydney, Australia • congress2018.org.au

Hosted by the Society of Australian Genealogists

Friday 9 – Monday 12 March 2018
at the International Convention Centre,
Darling Harbour, Sydney

**Registrations are now open and places are filling fast,
so reserve your place as soon as possible.**

- ✓ Hear 6 keynote presentations
- ✓ Choose from over 50 sessions on Australian & Oversea topics
- ✓ Catch up with new and old friends at the Welcome Function & Congress dinner
- ✓ Browse exhibitor stalls & get research help
- ✓ And talk family history for 4 days!

Follow us on Facebook www.facebook.com/Congress2018
and Twitter @Congress_2018 #Congress_2018

www.congress2018.org.au

Congress 2018 is being held at the new International Convention Centre in Darling Harbour, Sydney from Friday 9 to Monday 12 March 2018. Congress is the largest family history event in Australasia and is held every three years under the auspices of the Australasian Federation of Family History Organisations (AFFHO). Early Bird registrations open on 31 May 2017 and the full speakers' program will be released at that time. Follow the announcements at www.congress2018.org.au and www.facebook.com/Congress2018, and on Twitter @Congress_2018 #Congress_2018



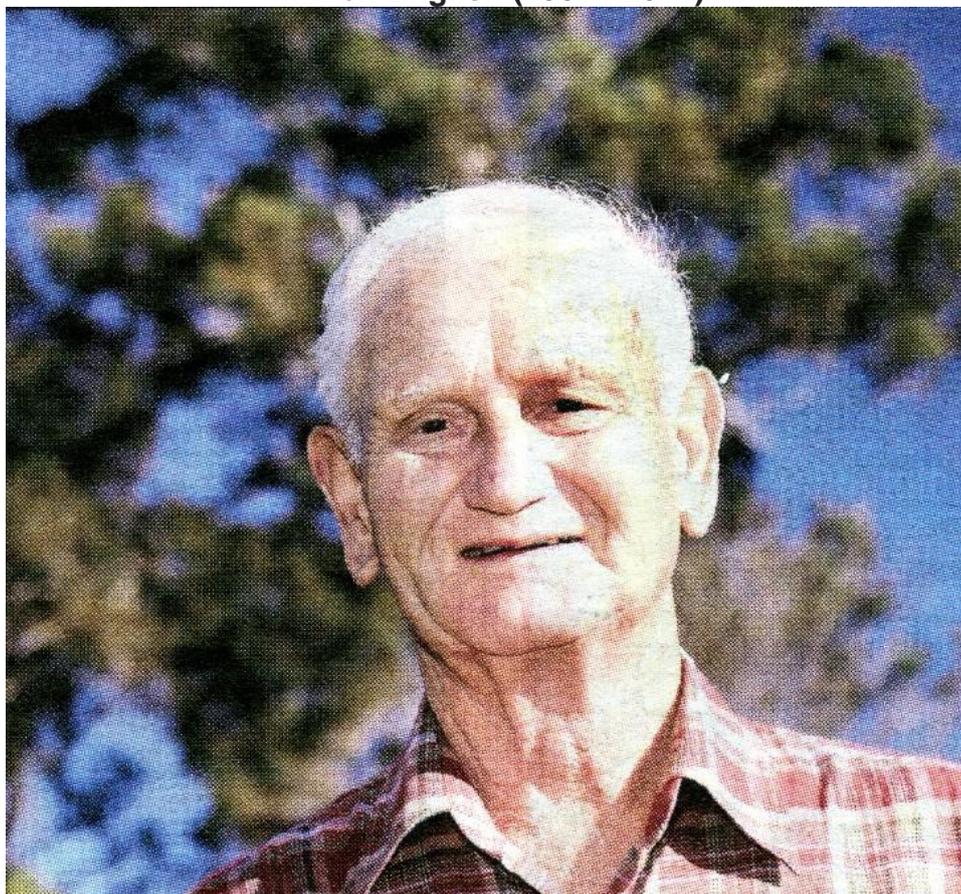
**Another photo of Light Up Camden celebrations in Argyle St
from Brett Atkins**

From all r4eports a good night was had by all



Vale .

Mr Len English (1931 - 2017)



Len English dedicated many years of his life to raising awareness about Camden's rich history. Mr English died this week aged 86. His family, friends and members of both the Camden Historical Society and Camden Area Family History Society are mourning his loss.

Camden History Society vice president John Wrigley OAM said Mr English was a member of both Societies for many years.

Len was also a descendant of the Camden pioneer families of English and Barrett, proud of his Dharawal indigenous heritage," Mr Wrigley said. "Len's great-great-grandmother was born at Camden Park and lived and worked on that property her whole life. "She was known as Nanny Barrett until it was discovered her traditional name was Guribunger.

"Len was proud to give the Welcome to Country speech at the Camden Council's flag raising ceremony in NAIDOC week in 2008."

A funeral service was held for Mr English at St Paul's Anglican Church, Cobbitty, at 10am on Wednesday, November 15 which was very well attended by friends and associates.