



# THE CAMDEN VALLEY VOICE

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April 2019

The Camden Area Family History Society Inc.

P.O. Box 679. Camden. NSW. 2570

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The screenshot shows the 'Historians and archivists' page on the City of Sydney website. The page features a navigation menu with options like 'About Sydney', 'Research and statistics', 'Historians and archivists', 'Search our collections', and 'Sydney's history'. The main content area is titled 'Historians and archivists' and includes a sub-section 'Journey through the past' with text about Sydney's history and links to 'City Archives', 'Search our collections', 'History festivals', 'Books and publications', and 'Local history groups'. A circular graphic on the right lists 'Inside this section' with links to 'City Archives', 'History festivals', 'Books and publications', and 'Local history groups'.

## The City Of Sydney Archives

Come along to our May General Meeting on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> May to hear **Dr. Lisa Murray** speak about both the City of Sydney Archives and The Dictionary of Sydney Project

**7.30pm start**

**All members welcome to participate.**



### ***From the Editor***

With Easter fast approaching over the weekend of Friday 19<sup>th</sup> – Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> many of us are looking forward to holidays and such but we have many events coming up of interest to all. Specifically on the first weekend in May (4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup>) we have our Open weekend and I would urge as many members as possible to come along and learn more about what your society can do for you. Also coming up we have Family History Month in August and History Week in September so events will be notified as they draw nearer.

Please remember that we publish our journal Camden Calling next in May so if you have any articles for either The Valley Voice or Camden Calling, you can contact me directly at any time on my mobile **0438 012 013** or email: [w.sims53@gmail.com](mailto:w.sims53@gmail.com).

### ***Happy Birthday To the following members For April 2019***

Geoffrey Howe 9<sup>th</sup> April  
Michael Trigg 10<sup>th</sup> April  
John Wrigley 18<sup>th</sup> April  
Wayne Chambers 19<sup>th</sup> April  
Sharon Greene 24<sup>th</sup> April



### **Camden Area Family History Society Inc.**

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

The research room is currently open  
**Thursday & Friday 10:00am to 3:00pm**  
**Saturday 9:30am to 12:00 noon**  
**All other times by appointment only.**

**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 either Ray  
Herbert on 96066075 or Fred Gibson on  
46559073 letting them know when you are  
available.**

### **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**

<b>Normal</b>	<b>Pensioners/Concession</b>
Single \$30	Single \$25
Couple \$35	Couple \$30



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## **April General Monthly Meeting Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> April**

Our April meeting to be held on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2019 will be the first of our **Members Workshops** where we ask members to come along with any “Roadblocks and BrickWalls” that they have come up against in their research. It is hoped that by disclosing these problem areas at the meeting, other members may have experienced similar issues and be able to suggest alternative research to help breach the roadblock or brickwall. No guaranteed results but we will all do our best to help.

## **May General Monthly Meeting Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> May**

Next month at our May meeting we will have Dr Lisa Murray from The Dictionary of Sydney who will address us on both the Sydney City Archives and Dictionary of Sydney. Dr Lisa Murray is the City Historian and heads up the history unit at the [City of Sydney Council](#). She oversees [adverse History Program](#) at the City that encompasses local and community history, civic and municipal history, and urban history. With over 15 years experience in the field of public history, Lisa is passionate about making history accessible to the public.

## **CAFHS Open Weekend 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> May 2019**

As part of Heritage Month, Camden Area Family History Society will be opening their rooms to all on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> May and Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> May between the hours of 10.00am and 3.00pm in conjunction with the Camden Historical Society Museum and also the Alan Baker Art Gallery at Macaria. We will have members staffing the rooms during these times and hope to have members come along to see what facilities are available in our room and the museum as well as members of the general public who may like to learn a little more about Family History research. We will have free ‘Starter Kits’ available to help point interested people in the right direction to get started.

## **Cawdor Cemetery Inscription Registration Project**

This project has progressed to the point where all physical recording of all headstone transcriptions has been completed and all existing headstones photographed. A group of 6 members attend on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> March and few 2-3 days the following week and all inscriptions were transcribed. The information gathered is now in the process of review and collation and the photographs are to be associated. We will advise future progress on this fascinating project as details come to hand.



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## *For Your Diary*

**Don't forget the upcoming conference this year**



*Exploring  
the  
Past*



35th Annual Conference of the  
NSW & ACT Association of Family History Societies

11-13 October 2019  
at Knox Grammar School,  
Pacific Highway, Wahroonga

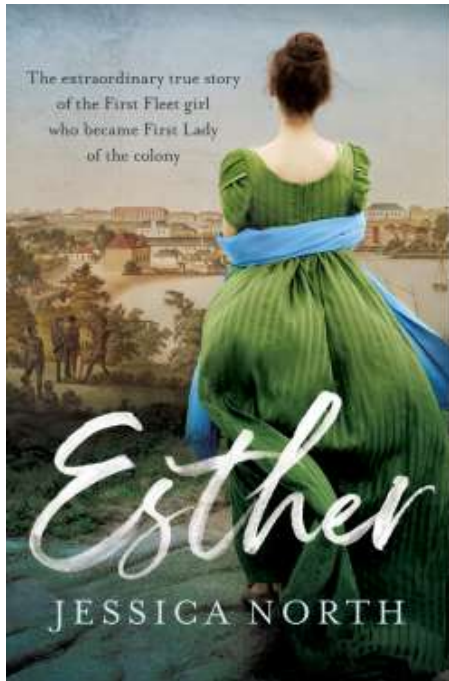
FRIDAY 10-4: FREE Family History Fair  
(open to the public)  
Evening Meet and Greet  
SATURDAY: Conference  
Evening Conference Dinner  
SUNDAY Morning: Conference

For full details see  
<http://exploringthepast.khs.org.au/>

Hosted by  
Ku-ring-gai Historical Society



Ku-ring-gai Historical Society



You are invited to celebrate the launch of

## Esther

The extraordinary true story of the First Fleet girl who became First Lady of the colony

by **Jessica North**

To be launched by Irina Dunn

10:30–11:30 am Monday 8 April 2019  
History House, 133 Macquarie Street, Sydney

Books will be available for purchase and Jessica will be happy to sign them

Please let Jessica know if you can come:  
[jessica@north.id.au](mailto:jessica@north.id.au)



## A little local Research done on behalf of an enquirer that may interest some:

In response to an enquiry received by Dawn Williams concerning Street names in Cobbitty and forwarded on to Council for clarification, the following email was received from Patricia Wear at Camden Council

Hi Dawn

I received your request regarding the naming of a few local streets in Cobbitty.

### **Matavai Street COBBITTY :**

Mix drawn from the history of Denbigh and its occupants, the Ayrshire cattle stud and the Scottish ancestry of the Mcintoshes. The area known as the Cowpastures (so named after cattle from the First Fleet roamed there) brought the area to the attention of European settlers. Settlement on the west of the Nepean River was prohibited, with the exception of the Macarthur and Davidson grants, but it was not long before grants were taken up in the lush pastures on the eastern side. Governor Macquarie had named the area **Cobbedee**, and when Gregory Blaxland was given a grant here in 1812 he called it **Cubbady Farm**. The



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larger grants in the area were Wivenhoe, given to the Reverend William Cowper in 1812, and **Macquarie Grove**, which was acquired by the Reverend Rowland Hassall in 1812. This was later passed on to his son Samuel Hassall. **Denbigh** was given to Charles Hook in 1815. **Matavai** was granted to James Hassall. There were also several smaller grants along the banks of the Nepean.

## **Cobbitty Road COBBITTY :**

Aboriginal (Kobbadee). Name for the area now Cobbitty. Source Pioneers of Camden, compiled by the Camden Historical Society, edited by JD Wrigley, 1981.

## **Clydesdale Road COBBITTY :**

Heavy Horse Breed endorsed by council 14/07/2015

Hoping this is of assistance to you.

Regards

Patricia Wear  
GIS/GLS Assistant Officer  
Camden Council

## **‘Daylight Savings’ ends next weekend!**

Remember to turn back your clocks when you go to bed next Saturday night as Daylight savings ends at 3.00am Sunday morning 7<sup>th</sup> April when all clocks should be set back 1 hour to 2.00am.



# UNDERSTANDING CEMETERY SYMBOLS, PART I



BillionGraves, 2 months ago 10 min read 37243

## Learning to Read a Cemetery:

Do you remember when you learned to read? As a child, it was fun to look at pictures in books as someone older read the words. But, oh, that magical moment when you realized you could read the words yourself! It opened a whole new world!

Would you like to learn to “read” a cemetery? It’s a genealogical adventure!

On many older gravestones, there are pictures and symbols that tell stories about your loved ones and ancestors. If you can’t read “gravestone-language” you are missing part of the story.

The first time I walked through a cemetery after learning about cemetery symbols was incredible. It was like someone was walking along beside me, introducing me to each person. “Samuel Hanover died at sea.” “Mary Smith passed away suddenly as an infant.” “John and Hannah hope to be together eternally.”

<https://blog.billiongraves.com/2019/01/29/understanding-the-cemetery-symbols-on-your-ancestors-gravestones/>



**LONDON'S MAGNIFICENT SEVEN CEMETERIES**

BillionGraves

In the early 1800s, epidemics in London were leading to deaths by the tens of thousands every month. Because people didn't understand how infectious diseases were spread, they came up with some pretty odd solutions to ward off illness.



It was commonly believed that the bad smells associated with dead bodies were the cause of sickness. You are probably familiar with the nursery rhyme, “Ring-around-the-rosies, pocket full of posies.” The theory was that carrying a bunch of flowers in your pocket could mask the smell of death and keep you from contracting a disease.

It was also believed that igniting barrels of gunpowder in the middle of the city of London would stop the spread of cholera. Naturally, the smell of the burning gunpowder would overpower the smells of decay and restore public health.

Eventually, it was realized that decaying bodies buried in close proximity to dense populations in large cities - often without coffins - was contaminating the water supply and causing disease. Thus, London officials came up with a solution and seven park-like cemeteries were built around the perimeter of London. You can read more about it in BillionGraves’ latest blog post: [London’s “Magnificent Seven” Cemeteries](#). This blog post also explains how the location of our ancestor’s final resting place can sometimes reveal their status in life.

On another note - we recently hit the first day of spring in the northern hemisphere. If this is bringing warmer weather to your area and you would like some help planning a group cemetery documentation event, send an email to [volunteer@BillionGraves.com](mailto:volunteer@BillionGraves.com) and we will be happy to assist you!

Have a “magnificent” week!

The BillionGraves Team





## **Anzacs of Macarthur**

**Author Talk with Lauren Hokin**



As a tribute to Anzac Day, Wollondilly Library will host local historian and author Lauren Hokin as she relives stories of the heroic local service men and women who served in World War 1 from her book "Anzacs of Macarthur".

She will also share tips in a workshop about how to research ancestors who fought in World War 1. Copies of her book will be available for sale and signing on the day.

**Free Event ( booking essential )**

**Thursday 18 April 2019**

**10:30AM – 12 NOON**

**The View Room**

**Level 1, Wollondilly Library**

**Picton**

**Please make your bookings at**

**[www.library.wollondilly.nsw.gov.au / bookings](http://www.library.wollondilly.nsw.gov.au/bookings)**

**Wollondilly Library (02) 4677 8300**





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## **CAMDEN HISTORICAL SOCIETY General Meeting**

The monthly General Meeting of the Camden Historical Society will be held on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> April at 7.30pm in the Museum and Doug Fulford will talk on an adventurous trip from Fremantle Western Australia to Sydney New South Wales in a Studebaker car in 1915.

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## **The History Council of New South Wales has sent a listing of Upcoming Events:**

What's coming up?

### **The RAHS Create NSW Regional Seminar: Bathurst**

The RAHS Regional Seminar program promotes the study, writing and dissemination of Australian history. It aims to develop historical expertise in the community that will support history and heritage projects. This regional seminar will offer participants practical advice on assessing key record sources, followed by a range of case studies on applying this to research projects.

#### **Speakers/Topics:**

- Associate Professor Carol Liston will highlight the range of records now available online that can help researchers investigate land settlement in the Bathurst Region
- Judith Dunn will consider the remaining buildings of the Female Factory and explore the lifestyle of the women convicts that lived there
- Christine Yeats will discuss and provide examples of the many search tips and strategies to assist researchers make better use of Trove's resources

You can see the the full program [here](#). Purchase tickets [here](#).

### **The City of Sydney Historical Association Talk: "The Eveleigh Payroll Robbery of 1914"**

The [City of Sydney Historical Association](#) is hosting Dick Whitaker as he discusses the fascinating occurrence of the Eveleigh Payroll Robbery of 1914.

Famous as the first time in Australia that an automobile had been used as a "getaway" vehicle, the Eveleigh railway payroll robbery of 10th June 1914 created a sensation in Sydney. The police identified a few strong suspects, including well-known criminals Ernest "Shiner" Ryan and Samuel "Jewey" Freeman, who were subsequently charged over the affair. Freeman's girlfriend at the time was another underworld identity, Kate Leigh.

This rather bizarre story, deep from the Sydney underworld of yesteryear, is recounted by amateur historian Dick Whitaker, who has a special interest in Surry Hills and the events around Sydney during the First World War.

Find out more [here](#).



## **Talk: Bruce Watt presents Dharawal: The First Contact People**

History Council of NSW member organisation, [Sutherland Shire Libraries](#) is hosting local historian Bruce Watt, on Wednesday 10th April, 2019, 6.30pm to 7.30pm, as he describes the experiences of the Dharawal people in a book that is both relevant to the Sutherland Shire and the nation.

In 1770 the first encounter between British and Aboriginal people on the east coast of Australia occurred at Botany Bay. For the British it heralded the beginning of endless possibility for Empire. For Aboriginal people it marked the beginning of the decimation of an ancient culture.

You can find out more and book [here](#).

## **Writers at Stanton: Sarah Maddison “The Colonial Fantasy: Why White Australia Can’t Solve Black Problems**

[Stanton Library](#) has begun its 2019 *Writers @ Stanton* program and it looks like a fascinating season, this event is happening next month on Tuesday, 9th April from 1pm to 2pm.

Join Sarah Maddison as she discusses her new book “The Colonial Fantasy: Why White Australia Can’t Solve Black Problems”.

Find out more [here](#).

## **Entries are closing soon for The National Trust (NSW) 2019 Heritage Awards!**

**Entries are closing soon for  
The National Trust (NSW) 2019 Heritage  
Awards!**

Do you know of any projects in the last year that promotes, protects or continues our amazing heritage? With less than a week before the deadline for submissions close, the National Trust is calling for project nominations for recognition in the 2019 Heritage Awards, which this year marks its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

The winners will be announced at the National Trust Heritage Awards luncheon on 10 May 2019 at Doltone House in Pyrmont, Sydney ([for tickets please click here](#)).

Visit the [National Trust Heritage Awards website](#) for further information including entry criteria, award categories and the process for individual nominations.

For further enquiries or to pass on details of worthy projects please call Jilly Clark on 9258 0112 or email [marketing@nationaltrust.com.au](mailto:marketing@nationaltrust.com.au)