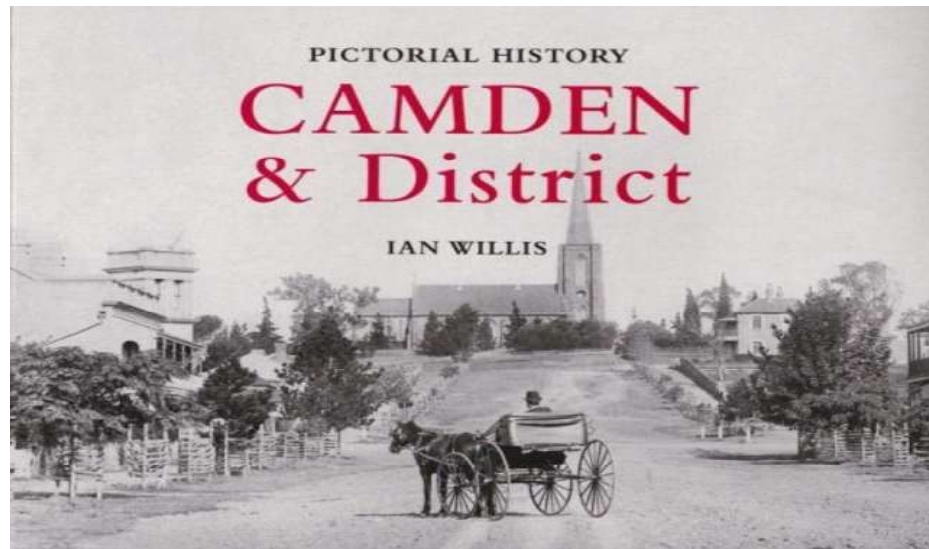




NEWSLETTER

PICTORIAL HISTORY OF CAMDEN & DISTRICT BOOK LAUNCH ON 4 December 2015



Inside this issue:

Our Book Launch	1
Editor's Notes	2
Catherine Park House	2
Open Days at Denbigh & Camden Park	3
Oxley Anchor resited	4
Camden Civic Awards	4
Book Launch at The Oaks	4
Australia Day Parade	5
Camden Fire Station	5
Street Names & change	6



Dr Ian Willis with Catherine Warne



The highlight of 2015 undoubtedly was our book launch authored by Ian Willis and published by Catherine Warne. The book is 144 pages of images and text and spans a time period from 1788 to Post World War II. It is a black and white publication with 250 photographs many from a number of new sources as well as manuscripts, maps and objects.

It was a catered affair at the Museum with 110 people in attendance. Many thanks to Philippa Percy and her team at Camden Civic Centre for the catering as there was plenty of food and not a crumb left. The bar was well attended as well.

This book has proven to be one of our most popular sellers. It is signed by Ian and is available from the Museum and local retailers for \$25.00.

Left is Ian signing books and Right is part of the crowd at the launch.

Photos from Brett Atkins



Ordinary General Meetings 2016

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

Each meeting is held on the second Wednesday of the month at 7.30pm in the Museum,

40 John St, Camden.
All welcome

Ph: (02) 4655 3400

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

Editor's Notes

Upcoming speakers 2016

9 March - Belgenny Farm: Keeping the history alive with Dr Cameron Archer AM, Chairman of Belgenny Farm Trust

13 April - An artist's view of history with Brian Stratton OAM. Images of some of Australia's Ghost Towns.

11 May - Heritage Show & Tell: Discovery & Rediscovery

8 June - Camden Park restoration of stables & life in a historic home with John Macarthur

13 July - Chinese Market Gardens in Camden district

10 August - AGM

14 September - History Week: Show & Tell - Neighbours

12 October - Oran Park/Catherine Park House restoration

9 November - Lost Buildings with Andrew Allen's blog

14 December - Christmas Party - Please bring a plate

** the above speakers/topics are subject to change

NEW VOLUNTEER AND MEMBER

Welcome to our new member Ms Charlene Carpenter of Gregory Hills and

Welcome to our new volunteer Ms Margaret Sartor of Werombi.

At present Rene has two persons per roster of two hours and his goal is to have three persons per roster in the future.

If any volunteer needs to contact Rene please ring him on 0424847492 or leave a message in the Volunteers' Coordinators tray in the Research Room.

BEREAVEMENTS

Sadly we say farewell to: Noel Riordan, past President of our Society
Wilma Skinner, member of the Society

VISITORS TO THE MUSEUM IN 2015

The total for the year is 6,568. This includes school and community groups.

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 of Ian's book launch, centenary of Camden Fire Station 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.

CATHERINE PARK HOUSE - HONOURING LOCAL ANZACS

On Monday 19 October 2015, Vice President Ian Willis, Treasurer Dawn Williams and Secretary Lee Stratton and her husband Brian along with other dignitaries of Camden attended an unveiling of a display to commemorate the service and sacrifice of two Camden servicemen during World War 1. This was held within the grounds of the newly restored Catherine Park House; 116 Oran Park Road, Oran Park (next to St Justin's Primary School) whom Catherine Park House have adopted. The two heroes are: Hector Small 1892 - 1915 and Milton Frank Thornton 1895 - 1915. Also present were relatives of the servicemen.

The estate researched these two young men and bound a book on each with their stories. The Society was presented with a copy of these books for our library. This was followed by an afternoon tea in the garden and a tour of the house. More information is available at the link below.



Above: Terry Goldacre, Managing Director of Harrington Estate with Camden Mayor Lara Symkowiak unveiling the two servicemen.

Right: Catherine Park House



DENBIGH OPEN DAY AND BOOK LAUNCH 10 OCTOBER 2015

Many people attended the open day of Denbigh, the large historic estate in Cobbitty. Owners Ian and Lesley McIntosh opened their property for visitors for the first time in some years. There were volunteer guides from the St Paul's Anglican Church for garden and home tours. Refreshments were also available on the day.

The book 'The Cemetery at St Paul's Anglican Church Cobbitty' by John Burge, Janice Johnson and Joy Thorn was launched at the house on this day. It details who is interred in the grounds of the church cemetery. A very useful publication for those interested in family history.

It is available from the Museum at the price of \$25.00



Joy Thorn, a very active member of the Society and the church.



RESEARCH BY VISITORS

Many visitors come to the Museum for the purpose of researching their family or a place of interest to them. It may be a planned visit or a spur of the moment request after they have viewed the Museum collection.

The following are some of the areas people have used our Research Files to obtain information.

The Poole Family, Pearson Family, Family Tree of Doust/Dowle Family & Camden in the 60's.

The Society is also researching potential street names for Camden Council especially for the Gregory Hills area. Aboriginal, early settlers, people associated with the schools and names of ships that our local pioneers travelled out on are being researched.

OPEN DAY AT CAMDEN PARK - 19-20 September 2015

This annual event once again proved popular with the public. It was mainly Society members acting as guides around the historic property. Prominent were President Bob Lester, Vice President Ian Willis, John and Julie Wrigley, Doug Barratt and Frances Warner.

On the 8th June 2016 our special guest, Edwina Macarthur-Stanham will be talking on the Camden Park restoration of stables & life in a historic home.

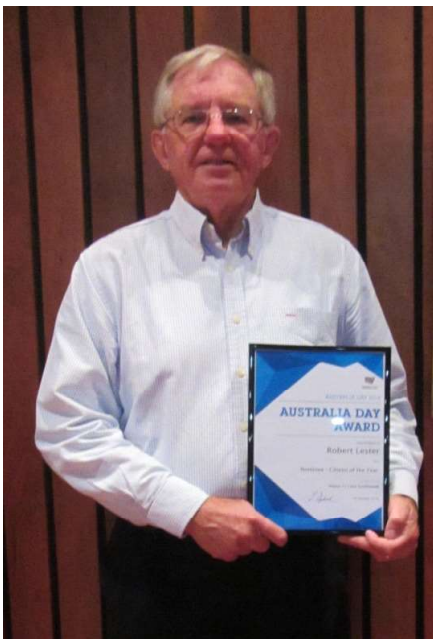


RELOCATION OF JOHN OXLEY'S ANCHOR



Finally the Oxley Anchor has been moved to its final resting place in Curry's Reserve next to the Information Centre along with the metal cut out of John Oxley. We are looking forward to the story board which is being finalised. A big thank you to Robert Wheeler who has been involved in this project from its inception. Here are some photos taken recently.

CAMDEN AUSTRALIA DAY CIVIC AWARDS 2016



Our President, Bob Lester was a worthy finalist in this year's Camden Citizen of the Year. The other two finalists were Keith Maddock and Val Stewart. Over many years all three have a long history of community involvement in the Macarthur region.

The Citizen of the Year was awarded to Keith Maddock.

But Bob gets our vote every time.

Photo on the right is Bob with Mary Irlam who nominated him for the award.



BOOK LAUNCH AT THE OAKS - 8 November 2015

Many members of our Society attended the book launch of 'Boys from Burrarorang & Beyond in WW1'. We had our own book stand with Dawn, Julie and John promoting the Society's publications. Also present were Ian and Betty Yewen in front of the poster of the book.

Of special note: the catering of the day consisted of food from recipes popular during WW1.



AUSTRALIA DAY PARADE 2016

We are indebted to the Boardman Family for their assistance in our participation in the Australia Day Procession. Their historic Holden Utility is such an attraction that it greatly helps us promote the existence of our Society within the community.

On that day we had roughly 200 people visit the Museum .



Also on that day I caught up with Frances Warner who was in the Australia Day Spirit as you can see in the photo on the left. She was telling me that her and her young Harry will be married 50 years on 29 January. To celebrate the event her family were to take them out for high tea at Rydges the next day.

CONGRATULATIONS and hope there are may more!



CAMDEN FIRE STATION TURNS 100

On 10 February, our first meeting of the year was about the Camden Fire Station's Centenary. The Fire & Rescue NSW Brigade stationed at Elderslie was asked if they could give a talk on the history of the fire station. Deputy Captain Joel Kursawe was our guest speaker and gave a very informative presentation from their archives. He also spoke about the changes through the years of equipment, trucks, uniforms, helmets and techniques and as an added duty they are now snake catchers. Peter Watson, a 94 yr old retired fireman was invited to the meeting as he was stationed at the John Street Fire Station from 1955 - 1976. He spoke to the meeting about his love of the job and told some funny and interesting facts about that period. As a result of our interest head office of the Fire & Rescue NSW Brigade are organising a special event to mark the centenary in April 2016. There are more photos and information on our Face Book page.



Peter with Bob outside the facade left and above is the crew with Peter and Bob

Peter Watson right reminiscing at the meeting and far right is Deputy Captain Joel Kursawe



BRIEF HISTORY OF CAMDEN FIRE STATION

The Camden Fire Station in John Street was officially opened in January 1916. The former building was the Temperance Hall where Council meetings were held until 1889 when they moved to the School of Arts building next door. It was also used for military service in the war years where they would dance in the School of Arts building and go next door to the hall for refreshments.

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 2015-16

Individual \$15, Family \$20

Now due for Year 1 July to 30 June

NEW STREET NAMES FOR CAMDEN DISTRICT

With the rapid housing development taking place in Camden over the next 10 years there will be an urgent need to name many new streets. In collaboration with Council the Society is working on developing a list of historically related names and words that can be used in appropriate locations in the area. Suggested names for Gledswood Hills and the next subdivision northwards, Emerald Hills have been taken from research files and books from the Museum's collection. They include the names of the original land grant holders like Kable and Mitchell, people who worked at Gledswood and families who sent the children to the old Gledswood School along Raby Road. The next area where names are required is in Leppington. So if you have any names or ideas and if you are interested in being involved with this project please let the Secretary know. Many thanks.

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.

NEW ITEMS IN MUSEUM CABINET

Recently John and Julie Wrigley have replaced the WW1 memorabilia kindly loaned from a private collector to focus on early education in the Camden district. The cabinet is outside the research room.



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