



# Royal Australian Historical Society

Knowing your history

18 July 2024

[View this RAHS email in your browser](#)



The Majestic, Katoomba (RAHS Photograph Collection)



## Tax Changes for Not-for-Profit (NFP) Organisations

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Important tax changes were announced in the 2021–22 Federal budget. They required NFPs with an active Australian business number (ABN) to lodge an annual NFP self-review return or an income tax return. The changes came into effect from 1 July 2023.

### Do the changes apply to my historical society?

- **NO**, if your society is a registered charity. You can check on the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC) [website](#).
- **YES**, if your NFP society has an active ABN. You can check if your ABN is active at <https://abr.business.gov.au/>.

If the changes do apply, then you must respond or risk penalties.

### Should my society apply to be registered as a charity?

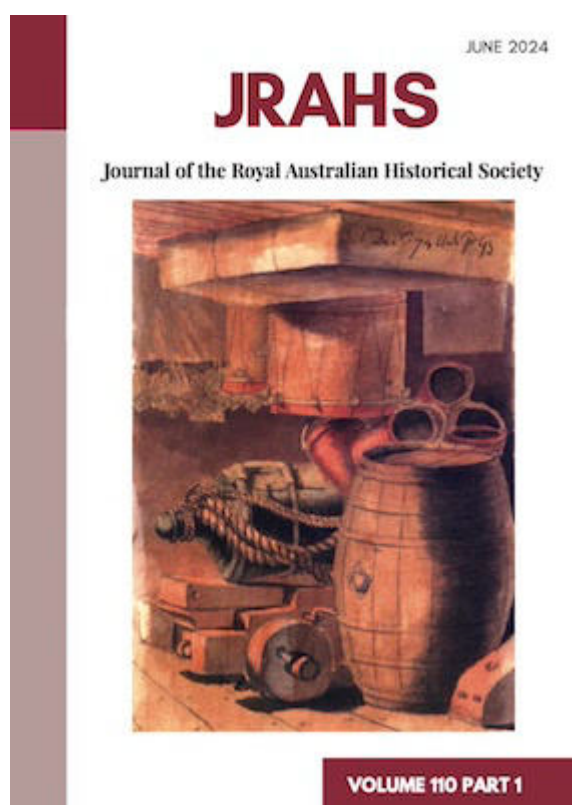
This won't help for the last tax year, but there are numerous benefits. Many historical societies are registered charities; [they are listed online](#).

### Tax-exempt Cultural Institutions

'Cultural institutions' are tax-exempt, but are defined as having a main purpose to encourage art, literature or music, or is for musical purposes. In the next e-news, we will update you on our efforts to advocate for the ATO to change its definition so that 'cultural institutions' include encouraging history.

### Other useful links:

- [Explaining income from members being tax-exempt.](#)
- [Any tax questions.](#)
- [Applying to be a charity.](#)
- [Template for a conflict of interest policy required for charities.](#) It does not have to be in the constitution.
- [Justice Connect](#), which provides legal information to NFPs.



## Explore New Articles, Reviews, and the Latest Podcast Episode!

The June 2024 JRAHS is now published online. Members can log into their account to read articles in this issue.

In the Editorial, Editor Dr Samuel White noted, 'I am proud that it reflects that at its core, the Journal is a publication from members, for members, by members, and with members'. [Read the Editorial.](#)

This issue includes the following articles:

unfit for command?'

- Terry Kass, 'Railway Navvies and Grog Shops 1878–85: Promoting law, order and sobriety through Crown Land management'.
- Rob Coutts, 'Ion Idriess in the Torres Strait, 1927: Head-hunting, mass murder and castaway children'.
- Leonie Bell, 'Stannumville'.

This issue also features our first 'Interpreting an Image' by Bruce Pennay and book reviews from Ian Lowe, Russell McGregor, Padriac Gibson, Samuel White, Jeff Kildea, Ian Dodd, Bruce Pennay and Sue Tracey. [Access the issue here.](#)

We are also pleased to share that the latest episode of the JRAHS Podcast has just come out. Check out the 'RAHS Digital News' below to learn more!



Broughton House, Parramatta, August 2019 (Collywolly / Wikimedia Commons / CC BY-SA 4.0).

## Broughton House: A Colonial Misnomer

We were delighted to welcome members and supporters from Parramatta to Michael Organ's presentation on *Broughton House, Parramatta: A Colonial Misnomer* on Wednesday 10 July. For those not so familiar with the Parramatta area, Michael's presentation provided an opportunity to learn more about the

home located at 43a Thomas Street.

Construction of the house began around 1838 when, it is understood, Laurentz Campbell contracted architect John Verge to construct the house for him. At the time, Campbell was the police magistrate at Parramatta and visiting magistrate at the Female Factory. In 1839, Conrad Martens sketched the house, titling it *House of L Campbell Esq. J.P., Parramatta, 20 March 1839*.

Broughton House was largely intact when it was added to the State Heritage Inventory in 1999. At the time, the physical condition of the property was reported as good although 'much altered and adapted'. Sadly, today the house is unoccupied and falling into disrepair. According to a report in the *Parramatta Advertiser* from 14 March 2023, 'Calls have been made for a dilapidated Victorian property at Parramatta not to become another casualty of the city's eroding historic landscape.'

Christine Yeats

RAHS Senior Vice President

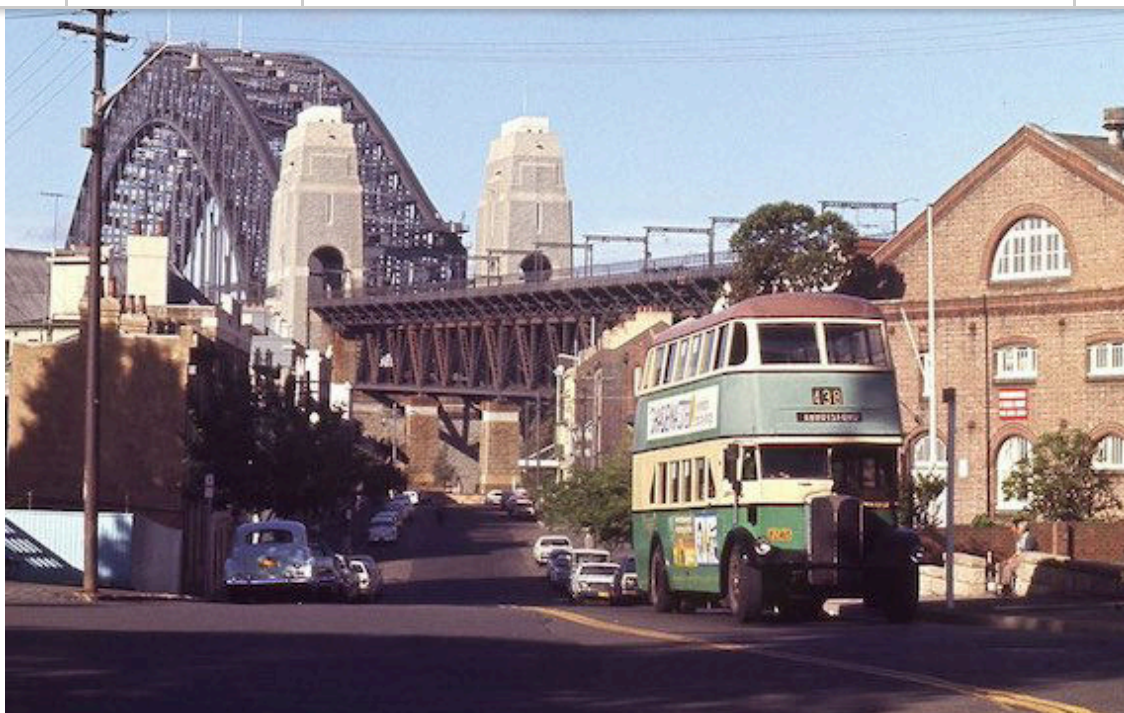
## Grants News



Transport  
for NSW

Transport  
HeritageNSW





## 2024 Transport Heritage Grants Program

The 2024 Transport Heritage Grants Program is closing soon!

The THGP is a NSW Government funded program, administered by the Royal Australian Historical Society, and supported by Transport Heritage NSW.

**Applications close: 31 July 2024 at 5 pm.**

[Visit our website for more information](#)

**RAHS Digital News**

# WHAT IS SO GOOD ABOUT CRIME – HISTORIANS' EDITION



Associate Professor Nancy Cushing  
University of Newcastle  
Director, Centre for the Study of Violence  
State Library of NSW Coral Thomas Fellow, 2024 - 25

## What Is So Good About Crime – Historians' Edition

### Presented by Nancy Cushing

Nancy Cushing was our guest for our monthly lecture series in May 2024. Nancy spoke about why studying crime can be fruitful for historians, illustrating her points with examples from Australia's criminal past.

[Catch up on YouTube!](#)

JUNE 2024  
**JRAHS**  
Journal of the Royal Australian Historical Society



VOLUME 110 PART 1

### JRAHS Podcast: Minnup and George Augustus Robinson

#### Interview with Bruce Pennay

Associate Professor Bruce Pennay OAM joined JRAHS Editor Dr Samuel White for the latest episode of the JRAHS Podcast. Bruce and Sam discussed a unique image from George Augustus Robinson's journals.

[Listen Here!](#)

## RAHS News





## Nomination Deadline 20 September 2024

The Certificates of Achievement recognise members of affiliated societies whose contributions are significant and noteworthy. In 2023, we awarded eleven Certificates, which recognised contributions in publications, research, event organisation, archival and museum collections management, finances, volunteering, and coordinating online initiatives. This year the Certificates will be presented at the 2024 RAHS Conference in Campbelltown.

All nominations must be in writing and show one or more of the following:

- Comprehensive evidence of achievement.
- Quality of service.
- Significant support (financial or benefit-in-kind).

Candidates for the award must be nominated by a member of an affiliated society and be approved by either a general meeting, an executive meeting or a specially convened subcommittee. The presiding President and Secretary (or other appropriate office bearer) must also sign the nomination.

Nominations should be emailed to [admin@rahs.org.au](mailto:admin@rahs.org.au).

## RAHS Events



A screenshot from Antonioni's *L'Avventura* – a film central to Sylvia Lawson's practice as a film critic

## RAHS Day Lecture Sylvia Lawson's Journey from Film Critic to Historian

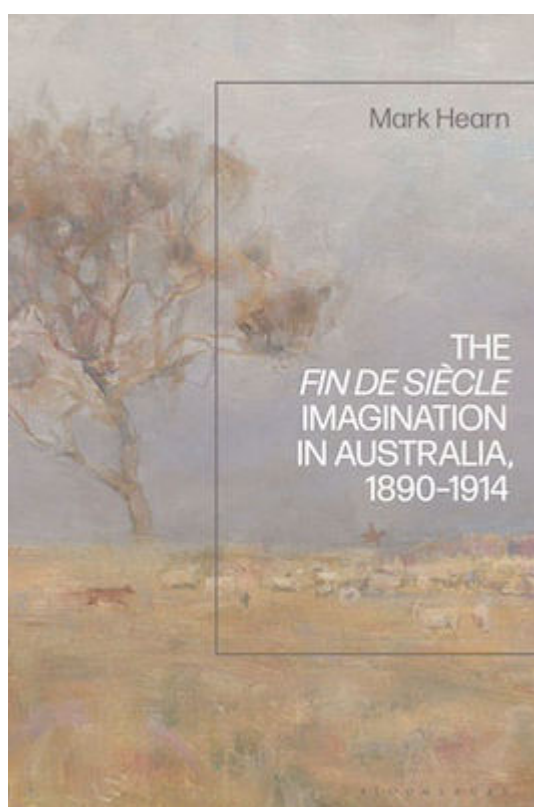
**When:** Wednesday, 7 August 2024 at 1 pm.

**Where:** History House, 133 Macquarie St, Sydney NSW 2000.

**Cost:** Free.

In 1983, Australian film critic Sylvia Lawson published her first book, *The Archibald Paradox*. The work originated after Sylvia, 'rummaging around' the *Bulletin* magazine's old headquarters ahead of the sale of the storied magazine to media mogul Frank Packer, found a set of exercise notebooks that housed the makings of J.F. Archibald's handwritten memoirs. In this talk, we will look at how Australia's finest mid-century film critic became one of its boldest biographers and historians.

### RESERVE TICKETS



### RAHS Special Lecture

### Subjects of Time: Australian lives at the fin de siècle

**Speaker:** Mark Hearn.

**When:** Wednesday, 14 August 2024 at 1 pm.

**Where:** History House, 133 Macquarie St, Sydney NSW 2000.

**Cost:** Free.

The *fin de siècle* (c.1890–1914) reflected a tension between the movement towards the future and an enervating stasis: fears of degeneration contested

Lawson, and Aboriginal activist David Unaipon – seemed gripped by a sense of urgency in pursuit of their aims, as the possibilities of profound change seemed imminently within reach. The ideas available at the *fin de siècle* provided the imaginative resources for intensifying this search: first wave feminism and the New Woman, the emergence of radical politics and anarchism; the exploration of Symbolism and alternative spirituality.

RESERVE TICKETS



**RAHS/WEA Workshop**  
**Stitching Stories: Crafting personal narratives using  
interconnected online resources**

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**Speaker:** Christine Yeats.

**When:** Wednesday, 21 August 2024 at 11 am.

**Where:** History House, 133 Macquarie St, Sydney NSW 2000.

**Cost:** RAHS Members \$35 | Non-members \$39.

This workshop will equip participants with the knowledge and skills to delve into the rich tapestry of online resources available for uncovering life stories. By exploring interconnected platforms and databases, participants will gain the ability to piece together historical narratives and paint a comprehensive picture of a person's life. It will showcase the wealth of digital information (indexes, newspapers, government archives and genealogical websites), provide tips on effective search strategies, and highlight the importance of corroborating information across multiple sources to ensure accuracy.

BUY TICKETS



**RAHS Day Lecture**  
**A Transgressive Life: Monte Punshon and the Transformation of  
Australia, 1882–1989**

**Speaker:** Tessa Morris-Suzuki.

**When:** Wednesday, 4 September 2024 at 1 pm.

**Where:** Online via Zoom.

**Cost:** Free.

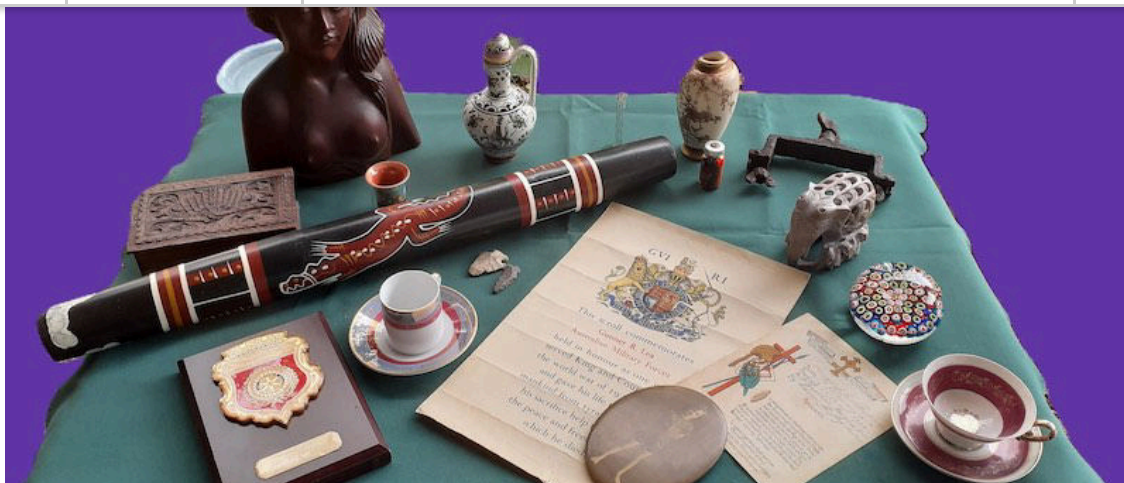
In her 106-year-long life, Ethel May (Monte) Punshon transgressed many of the social norms of her time. She crossed accepted boundaries of gender and sexuality and geographical borders separating Australia from Asia and the Pacific. This talk will explore the challenges of researching and writing Monte Punshon's story and consider the light that her life throws on the transformation of Australian society from the 1880s to the 1980s.

[RESERVE TICKETS](#)

**Affiliated Societies News**

**BMACHO**





## The Home Curator Workshop No. 1

**Presented by Gay Hendriksen (Rowan Tree Heritage and Cultural Services)**

Do you have special objects you want to preserve into the future? Whether you are a family historian, private collector or just have special objects you want to know how to care for there is something in this workshop for you. Learn about organising, preserving and sharing to a professional standard so that you can ensure your shoebox of papers or photos or a house or shed filled with your favourite objects, will survive. Bring along small objects, photos and documents (or images if they are too large or too fragile) for professional advice and clues to help you discover the best ways to identify and care for them.

**When:** Wednesday, 31 July at 9 am to 12.30 pm.

**Where:** CMS Conference Centre, 8 Violet St, Katoomba NSW.

**Admission: \$25. Book online.**

## Military History Society of NSW



## **The Miracle of D-Day, 6 June 1944: 80th Anniversary**

### **A Public Lecture by Noel Phelan**

This year we commemorate the 80th anniversary of D-Day, the Allied landings in Normandy on 6 June 1944. Operation Overlord was the greatest amphibious assault in history, a crucial turning point in World War II, and a miracle of planning, logistics, coordination and supply.

**When:** Saturday, 3 August 2024 at 10.30 am.

**Where:** The Auditorium, Anzac Memorial Hyde Park.

**Admission:** Free, but a donation is appreciated.

**For information:** [president@militaryhistorynsw.com.au](mailto:president@militaryhistorynsw.com.au)

**Dural and District Historical Society**



### The 2024 June Roughley Memorial Lecture

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Professor Grace Karskens' highly acclaimed book, *People of the River: Lost Worlds of Early Australia*, is a history of both the Aboriginal people and the settlers on Dyarubbin, the Hawkesbury/Nepean River, from deep time to the nineteenth century. Grace will also speak about her collaborative work with the Dharug and Darkinjung people of the Real Secret River: a Dyarubbin project.

#### CHANGE OF VENUE

**When:** Saturday, 10 August at 2 pm.

**Where:** Galston Uniting Church, 11 School Road, Galston.

**Admission:** Free with a gold coin for afternoon tea. Homemade marmalade and jams on sale. A pleasant afternoon in a rural setting. All welcome!

**Enquiries:** Michael Bell, 02 9653 1365 or 0466 341 729.

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**Colo Shire Family History Group**



Daisy O'Dwyer/Bates and Harry Morant, drawn by Chris Grosz for *The Monthly*, June 2007

## Harry 'Breaker' Morant in the Hawkesbury

### Horseman, poet, rogue, or all of the above?

Most people have heard of Breaker Morant, in particular of his involvement in the Boer War, his trial, and his execution. You've probably seen the 1980 film. But he had an interesting history in the outback areas of NSW/QLD before all of that. One area he visited, and in which he stayed for two years, was the Hawkesbury. What did he get up to while he was there? What did the locals think of him? Why did he leave? All will be revealed in our upcoming presentation at the Hawkesbury City Library.

**When:** Saturday, 17 August at 10 am.

**Where:** The Tebbutt Room, Hawkesbury City Library, 300 George St, Windsor.

**Admission:** Members \$5. Visitors \$7. To be followed by morning tea.

**RSVP:** Contact [nrenaud@bigpond.com](mailto:nrenaud@bigpond.com) before Wednesday, 14 August 2024.

**Huguenot Society of Australia**





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## They did their duty: Huguenot-descended servicemen from France, England, America, Germany, South Africa and Australia

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### A Public Lecture by Robert Nash

Australia's foremost expert on Huguenot studies, Robert Nash, is next in line to deliver a well-researched presentation titled *They did their duty: Huguenot-descended servicemen from France, England, America, Germany, South Africa and Australia*. All interested persons are welcome, and entrance is free, with afternoon tea to follow. The presentation covers an aspect of the achievements of Huguenot descendants in the modern world. The presentation will be broadcast live by Zoom, with a recording made for future viewing by Huguenot Society of Australia members. No booking is necessary to attend.

**When:** Saturday, 17 August at 2 pm.

**Where:** Gordon Baptist Church Hall, Park Ave, Gordon (near the railway station).

**Admission:** Free. Afternoon tea will be served. All welcome!

**More information:** Robert Nash, [ozhug85@gmail.com](mailto:ozhug85@gmail.com)

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**Friends of Callan Park**



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### **25th Anniversary Celebrations**

Friends of Callan Park celebrated their 25th anniversary on 4 December 2023.

Friends of Callan Park President Hall Greenland has written about their history and campaigns to protect the heritage parklands and buildings.

We wish to extend our congratulations to the Friends of Callan Park on reaching this milestone and on all the work their members do for the community.

[Learn more on the RAHS Blog](#)

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### **Randwick and District Historical Society**

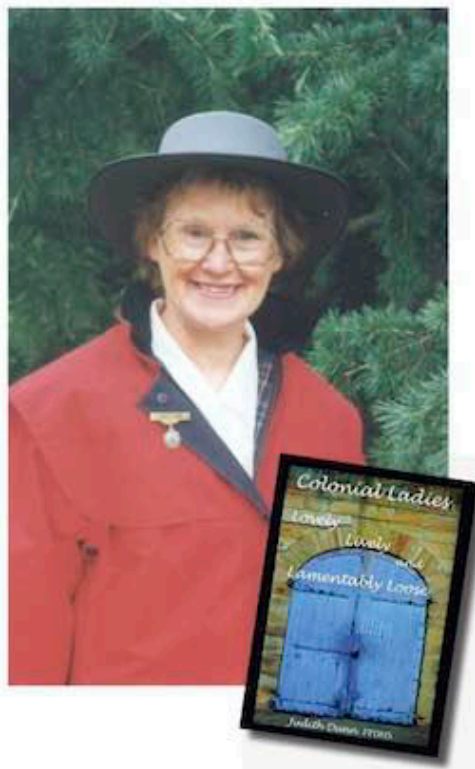
# History Talk (RDHS): Colonial Ladies: Lovely, Lively and Lamentably Loose

**Join us for a free history lecture  
presented by Judith Dunn, OAM.**

A lively talk revealing the feisty nature of convict pioneer women, labeled as "the very dregs of society". Beyond minor thefts, these women engaged in mischief, including amorous adventures with men, drunkenness, absconding and violent behavior. This thought-provoking presentation explores the harsh realities of their gaol experiences and how they managed to survive.

Judith Dunn's passion for Australian history is clear through her roles as a Councillor at the Royal Australian Historical Society and a representative on the Federation of Australian Historical Societies. With over 30 years of service, she currently sits on the Council of the Parramatta & District Historical Society. Judith received an OAM in 2011 for her contributions to History and Heritage.

*This is a free event, but bookings are essential. This is a joint talk held by the Randwick and District Historical Society (RDHS) and Randwick City Library.*



**Lionel Bowen Library**  
**Saturday 17 August at 1.00pm**  
669-673 Anzac Parade, Maroubra

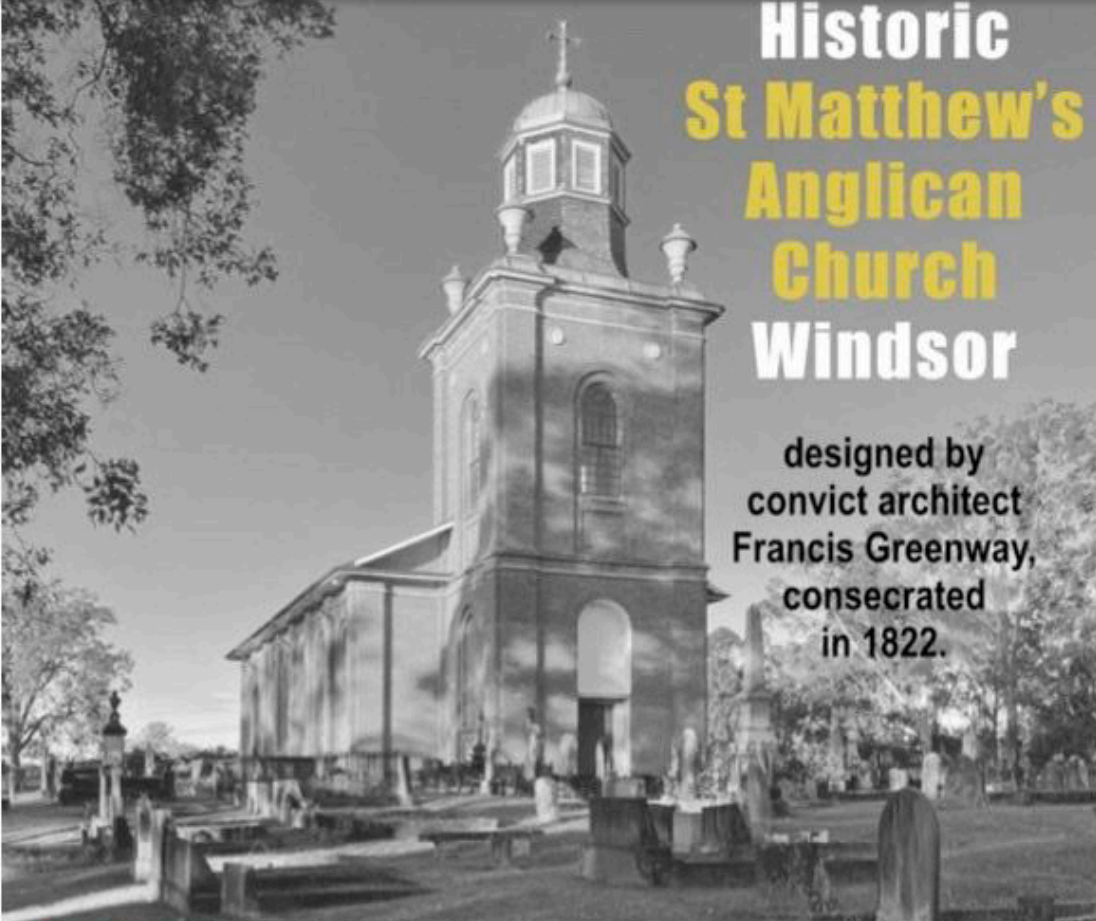
**BOOK  
NOW**



**For more information:**  
contact RDHS: 02 9349 3572  
or email: [randwickhistory@outlook.com](mailto:randwickhistory@outlook.com)

**Hawkesbury Historical Society**





# Historic St Matthew's Anglican Church Windsor

designed by  
convict architect  
Francis Greenway,  
consecrated  
in 1822.



## TOURS

Defenders of Thompson Square, in collaboration with St Matthew's Anglican Church and the Hawkesbury Historical Society, is offering guided tours of the church, belltower and cemetery at 5 Moses Street, Windsor

Tour Dates:	Sunday	23 June	1-3pm
	Sunday	18 August	1-3pm
	Sunday	20 October	1-3pm

**Cost:** \$50 per person for a 2 hour tour comprising of church, belltower and cemetery.

**Age:** Restricted to persons 18+ years of age.



## Tours of St Matthew's Anglican Church, belltower and cemetery

**For bookings and details:**

[www.defendersofthompsonsquareinc.com/defenders-tours](http://www.defendersofthompsonsquareinc.com/defenders-tours)

Maximum of ten participants per tour and one tour only offered on each advertised date.

**Cancellations with refund:**

For cancellations and refunds please email [defenderstours@gmail.com](mailto:defenderstours@gmail.com) at **least 5 days before the tour date**. If we cancel a tour we will offer you a refund or a place in the next advertised tour date.

**Cancellations with no refund:**

If you request to cancel the booking less than 5 days before the tour, we will not be able to offer a refund.

**Extreme weather:**

If extreme weather events (heat, heavy rain, flood, fire) are predicted, we will cancel and provide refunds.

**Light rain or drizzle:**

Please dress accordingly. We may cancel the outdoor component of the tour and provide a partial refund.

**Recommended clothing, footwear and bags:**

Please wear comfortable clothes and enclosed rubber-soled shoes, suitable for walking on uneven ground and narrow stairs. No large bags please.

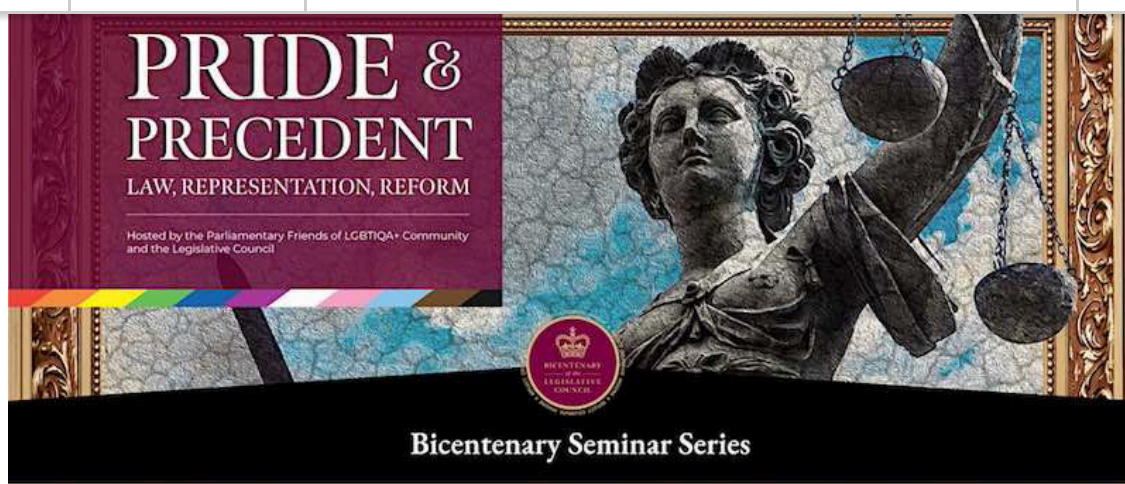
**Mobility:**

Please note that the tour involves climbing steep, narrow stairs with no hand rails and walking on uneven ground.

**60% of all funds raised will be donated to the St Matthew's Anglican Church conservation fund.**

@DefendersofThompsonSquare on facebook

**History News**



## Pride & Precedent: Law, Representation, Reform

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Discover the powerful stories behind 40 years of groundbreaking LGBTIQ+ reform across the Legislative Council and the Supreme Court of NSW in this not-to-be-missed seminar! Hear from a panel of high-profile figures as they share stories and insights from their lived experiences of reform and diverse representation.

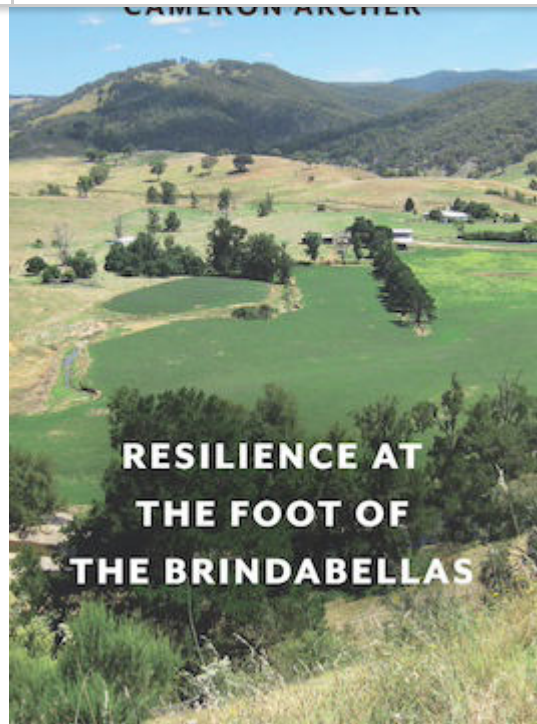
*Pride & Precedent* is co-hosted by the Parliamentary Friends of LGBTIQ+ Community. It's part of a host of exciting events marking this year's Bicentenary of the NSW Legislative Council — Australia's very first legislature.

**When:** Friday, 19 July, 6:30 – 8:30 pm (seminar starts at 7 pm).

**Where:** NSW Parliament House.

**Tickets:** \$25 (includes a drink, canapé and gift). [Book Now!](#)

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### **Resilience at the foot of the Brindabellas**

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RAHS member and long-time Hunter Valley local historian Dr Cameron Archer AM has written about the locality where he was born and raised. It is within sight of the nation's capital, Canberra, but could be a million miles away.

Bounded by the Brindabellas, the Murrumbidgee and Goodradigbee valleys and gorges, it was the home to the Ngunnawal People for thousands of years until the arrival of Europeans with their cattle and sheep in the 1830s. The lands were dominated by the 52,000-acre Cavan run, which became one of the region's first-class wool-producing stations through the efforts of the Castle and Castle-Roche families.

Anyone interested in the history of the Southern Tablelands will find this book a valuable addition to their collection. It is 420 pages and includes 80 images and two maps to support the text.

Available through online orders: \$40 plus \$10 postage.

[cameronarcher.com.au](http://cameronarcher.com.au)

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Department of School Education – Department of Education – Colonial Secretary's Office. Education

Head Office 1881–1915. State Archives Collection, MHNSW: NRS-15051-1-11-[582]-19

### Online Guide: Accessing NSW Colonial Secretary's records

The Museums of History NSW have released the [\*NSW Colonial Secretary's records, 1826–1900: a guide to accessing them online\*](#) on their website.

The guide was made available with the permission of Clive Smith and the Port Macquarie and Districts Family History Society Inc.

The correspondence from 1788–1825 has been indexed and digitised and is available in the [\*Index to Colonial Secretary's Papers 1788–1825\*](#). Some of the correspondence and related records created between 1826–1900 have been digitised and are available online via Ancestry.com and FamilySearch.org. This guide helps users navigate this extensive record set online.

# HISTORY NOW

This event is held in partnership with the University of Newcastle's Centre for the Study of Violence.



## TRUTH-TELLING & HISTORIES OF GENOCIDE

LORENA ALLAM, DIRK MOSES AND ÜMIT KURT  
CHAIR: NANCY CUSHING

Wednesday 31 July, 9pm-10.30pm AEST\*  
ONLINE ONLY \*late night special, to fit 4 time zones

### History Now: Truth-Telling and Histories of Genocide



Lorena Allam, Dirk Moses and Ümit Kurt reflect on what can be learned from histories of genocide and locate their discussion between journalism, history and processes of truth-telling.

**When:** Wednesday, 31 July at 9 pm AEST\*

**Where:** Online via Zoom.

**RSVP:** [Please register to receive the link.](#)

\*Later start to accommodate four international time zones.

## Other News



## I Was Actually There

From the makers of the award-winning *You Can't Ask That*, this bold six-part documentary explores defining moments of our recent history through the eyes, ears and voices of those who witnessed them firsthand.

The series explores events including the Port Arthur massacre, the Boxing Day tsunami of 2004, Nicky Winmar's stand against racism, The Beatles' world record-breaking Adelaide visit, the Woomera detention centre breakout, and the Beaconsfield Mine rescue.

Watch the program on Tuesdays at 8 pm on ABC TV or stream all episodes on [ABC iView!](#)



**22 - 25 October 2024**  
**Ōtautahi | Christchurch, Aotearoa | New Zealand**



The Australian Society of Archivists (ASA), Archives & Records Association of NZ Te Huinga Mahara (ARANZ) and the Pacific Regional Branch of the International Council of Archives (PARBICA) extend a warm invitation to join them in opening the archives: share your experiences and strategies for achieving this through access, engagement or other innovative avenues.

The conference aims to bring together a wide range of views on what 'opening' the archives means; how this has been, or might be, achieved, and when it should not. It is also a space to explore the challenges and opportunities posed by new technologies, increased accessibility, and the acknowledgement of historical and cultural sensibilities.

For more information, [visit the conference website](#).



Kiama (RAHS Photograph Collection)

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