Welcome to our October newsletter

Since our last newsletter in June, we have said goodbye to our Dictionary colleagues and friends, both staff and volunteers. There are now only two staff members, myself and Linda Brainwood, on reduced part-time hours.

We were particularly sad to farewell Jenny McInerney, our Editorial Researcher (and event planner), who had been with the Dictionary almost since its inception. We miss her keen eye, insightful observations and impressive research, not to mention her impeccable style, wit and baking. The office refrain is now: What would Jenny say? (We know the answer...but we’re still keeping it Jen!)

In July work began on the new Dictionary of Sydney website that will be maintained at the State Library of New South Wales. It’s a complex and challenging task that occupies most of our time and
we are pleased to report that it has been progressing well. Many thanks to our partners at the State Library of NSW and the City of Sydney for supporting this project.

Jonathan Jones's exhibition *barrangal dyara (skin and bones)* opened at the Royal Botanic Gardens in September and a number of our colleagues gave talks during the public programs. In so many ways this exhibition was a beautiful representation of what the Dictionary does; the richness and depth of links created between people, places, communities, events and objects that make history so exciting to work on. Thank you to Kaldor Public Art Projects and everyone involved for bringing this special event to Sydney.

I look forward to bringing our next update to you in December.

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**Support the Dictionary!**

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**What your donation can do**

The Dictionary of Sydney publishes freely accessible, reliable and authoritative information about Sydney's history. Every day we provide facts, information, images, multimedia and unique stories to a growing audience of students, teachers, history enthusiasts, researchers, residents and visitors to this beautiful city.
We couldn’t do this without the passion, dedication and expertise of our staff, board and volunteers and the ongoing support of our project partners and contributors.

**Now more than ever we need your help.**

There are many people who would appreciate and use the Dictionary but don't know it exists. In order to continue to keep adding to the Dictionary and to bring free, reliable and quality content to a wider audience, we need to keep growing the Dictionary. You can help! Find out what your donation can do [here](#).

![Minerva Theatre opening night, Potts Point 18 May 1939 by Sam Hood Courtesy: Mitchell Library, State Library of New South Wales (a301103 / PXE 789 (v.56), 131) http://dictionaryofsydney.org/image/145619](#)

**NEW to the Dictionary**

While we are working on the migration of the Dictionary to the State Library of NSW we will be publishing less regularly, but we have just regenerated the site with an eclectic assortment of new fascinating entries and images.

Only two of Sydney's earliest theatre sites remain in use today, The Royal and Her Majesty's. Explore more of [Sydney’s lost theatres](#) in a new Dictionary entry by academic and architect Ross Thorne.
Another entry on a former theatrical hub is The Minerva Theatre and Metro Kings Cross by design historian Rebecca Gross. Rebecca has also written an entry on the history of the modernist Dental Hospital building at Central. Staying with the building theme, Laila Ellmoos has contributed and entry on the grand sandstone Lands Department Building which is being redeveloped as a luxury hotel.

Neil Radford, former University of Sydney librarian and Dictionary volunteer, has written an entry for us on the bootmaking benefactor of the Fisher Library, Thomas Fisher, as well as an overview of the history of the University of Sydney, Victoria Barracks, the Soldiers Riot of 1916 and Celebrating the End of World War I.

Keith Vincent Smith has written for us on Carangarang, Bennelong's sister and the best known of his siblings, who was a notable presence in Sydney and Kissing Point until the 1830s.

Gentlemen in nineteenth century Sydney would defend their honour through a ritual of mannered violence as Dr Catie Gilchrist discusses in her entry Duelling in Colonial Sydney.

SDN Childrens Services was established in 1905 as Sydney Day Nursery Association to provide care for the children of working class mothers. Our entry by Lindsay Read, Michelle Goodman and Susan Mills explores the association’s history over the course of the twentieth century.

The case of the amorous and murderous dentist of Wynyard Square Henry Louis Bertrand, contributed by John Edwards horrified and enthralled Sydney in 1865 and continues to intrigue readers today.

And finally, to finish off this smorgasbord of historical delights we have an entry on Oranges by Kim Hanna.

Bon appetit!

Pic: Oranges at the picnic at Mrs Macquarie's Chair c1855, Courtesy Dixson Galleries, State Library of NSW (a1528104 / DG 265 (detail)) http://dictionaryofsydney.org/image/146159

History Week 2016
The Dictionary of Sydney was proud to support History Week 2016. It was an amazing success, with enough events to make a History Month more than viable!

We'd like to offer our congratulations to the History Council NSW executive for their successful funding application to ArtsNSW. It’s a highly competitive field and very well deserved. Well done!

If you missed the Annual History Lecture 'Neighbours and Heroes' by Dictionary of Sydney author, Professor Heather Goodall. ABC Radio National's Big Ideas recorded it on the night and have made it available via their website.

Listen
Did you know that you can keep up with the Dictionary via our blog as well as this newsletter? You can subscribe to the blog to get regular updates from us, and to get a weekly helping of Sydney history delivered to your inbox.

Every Wednesday morning, the Dictionary presents a segment on 2SER breakfast with Nic Healey. Our wonderful regular presenters & Dictionary of Sydney treasures Lisa Murray and Nicole Cama share stories to intrigue, entertain and inform 2SER's morning listeners. If you miss it in the morning rush, you can always catch up via the blog, where there will be a link to the podcast too.

A small selection of recent stories:

- Sydney Sayings with Dr Lisa Murray
- Sydney Shipwrecks with Nicole Cama
- Scandalous Music with Dr Lisa Murray
- Ostrich Farming in Sydney with Nicole Cama

2SER have been great friends of the Dictionary and are holding their annual fundraising Supporter Drive from October 14-28th (with some great prizes too), so head over to their website and show them you care: [http://www.2ser.com/supporterdrive](http://www.2ser.com/supporterdrive)
Dictionary of Sydney tea towels
Have you ever wanted a bit of the Dictionary of Sydney to take home and keep? Or perhaps you want to share a bit of Sydney history over Christmas?

We now have a very limited number of exclusive Dictionary of Sydney tea towels available for sale!

Featuring James Ashton's grand feat of horsemanship in Sydney in 1855, the tea towels have been screen printed in Sydney in a bright Dictionary orange on 100% white cotton, using waterbased Permsaset inks.

$25 (including postage)

and every sale helps the Dictionary of Sydney.

Thank you again to Arcade Screen Printing at St Peters for their help with this project.

$25 - Buy now

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**Book reviews**

**Jim Davidson, Moments in Time: a book of Australian postcards**

National Library of Australia, 2016, paperback $44.99

The humble postcard enjoyed a relatively brief but spectacular place in postage history roughly from the 1890s to the 1920s. In 1906 alone the Sydney GPO handled more than 12 million of them. Jim Davidson has compiled what amounts to a social history of Australia as depicted in its postcards....
James Colman, *The House that Jack Built: Jack Mundey Green Bans Hero*

NewSouth, Sydney, 2016, paperback $49.99

Readers with an interest in heritage, conservation, urban planning and design – or the lack of it – and urban history and politics will find Jim Colman's highly readable book insightful and stimulating. Colman has not simply produced a biography of the famous activist, conservationist, communist and unionist, Jack Mundey, he has written a beautifully contextualised history of the urban environmental movement in Sydney from the late 1960s...
Kiera Lindsey, *The Convict's Daughter: The scandal that shocked a colony*

Allen & Unwin, 2016, paperback $32.99

In 1848 Sydney was utterly enthralled by the scandal of an attempted underage elopement in the dead of night, an enraged father chasing after the pair with loaded pistols, and a subsequent trial for abduction. In *The Convict's Daughter* historian Kiera Lindsey tells this thrilling and remarkable colonial melodrama of a family against the backdrop of the wider social history of Sydney and indeed the outside world...
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