Welcome to our January 2017 newsletter

Since our last newsletter in October, the Dictionary of Sydney office in Benledi House in Glebe has closed.

We are very sad to be leaving our fellow Benledi residents and this great community, and encourage you all to head down Glebe Point Road to check out the refurbished Glebe Library, wander through the gorgeous community garden, get a delicious poppyseed danish from a local cafe and visit one of the loveliest florists in the city!

Without the City of Sydney’s financial and in-kind support over the last ten years, the Dictionary of Sydney would not exist, and we want to express our gratitude and appreciation of this support on behalf of all the Dictionary’s readers and contributors.

We are still working with a fantastic team at the State Library of New South Wales on migrating the Dictionary of Sydney website onto a new platform and look forward to announcing its completion. Many thanks to our partners at the State Library of NSW and the City of Sydney for supporting this project.

If sending mail to the Dictionary of Sydney, until further notice please use the mailing address PO Box 23, Glebe NSW 2037.

If you need to make a larger delivery, please use the contact form or email us at info (at) dictionaryofsydney.org and we will be in touch to work out an alternative delivery address.

The Dictionary of Sydney is only staffed on a part-time basis but we will reply to you as soon as possible.

I look forward to bringing you our next update.

Jacqueline Spedding
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Support the Dictionary!

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.

In order to keep adding to the Dictionary and to bring this 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.

DONATE TODAY

Summer reading

While we are working on the migration of the Dictionary website to the State Library of NSW we will be publishing less regularly, so we thought we'd make some summary suggestions from content already on the site for you to dip into.

**Sydney's First Ice**, by Nigel Isaacs: Natural ice, imported from the lakes of the north-eastern United States, cooled the drinks of Sydneysiders for the first time in 1839. During the early 1850s, the trade provided relief during Sydney summers, as well as a spur to local engineers to improve ice manufacturing.

**Ocean Baths** by Marie-Louise McDermott: Rock baths, ocean pools and boogie holes have provided Sydney swimmers with 'wild' swimming that is nevertheless protected.

**Tamarama** by Kimberley O'Sullivan: Marked with the rock carvings and middens of its traditional owners, Tamarama became the site of pleasure gardens like Wonderland City.

**The Narrabeen Lagoon Aboriginal Settlement** by Peter Read: Used until the 1950s, the Aboriginal camp at Narrabeen Lagoon was an important site for the Gai-mariagal people, offering shelter, fish and wetland resources.

**Sailing** by Carlin de Montfort: Sydney's first European colonists clung to the coastline and looked to the harbour and the sea for survival. Early recreational sailing was a product of the city's function as a seaport town. Sailing has since adapted to reflect and contribute Sydney's changing culture and customs.

Listen to **Mrs Enid and Mr Carl Borowsky recall learning to swim in the Georges River in the 1920s**, interviewed in 1986 by the Liverpool City Library.

Remember too, that the free Dictionary of Sydney App for mobile devices gives you access to four free historical walking tours around Sydney.

You can keep exploring the Dictionary's content in so many different ways - you can search directly, or browse the different kinds of entries, wander through the subject list and meander through the links you find along the way in the entries and the connections listed with the records.

For example, under **Subjects**, you could look for **Beach Culture**, or **Swimming** or **Pools** or **Sailing** or **Weather** which will take you to related entries, pictures and other entities.

To browse through the different types of Dictionary entries, use the menus you can find on the **home page and the right hand column** of each page inside the Dictionary. You can decide if you want to sort the list by names, or by type. So, under **Structures** if sorting by type, you can find a number of entries under **Swimming Pools**, or perhaps by **Natural Features**, to see a list of **bays**, beaches, **lakes** and **pools** that have been mentioned in the Dictionary so far.

Click on the links to be taken straight to the Dictionary and dive in!

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**The Dictionary of Sydney on 2SER**
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, we present 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.

Over summer we’ve had some special guests presenting too - if you missed their segments head over to the blog to listen in:

- Inscriptions from our past with Peter Hobbins
- Sydenham Drainage Pit and Pumping Station No.001 with Megan Hicks

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**Books**

**Lisa Murray, *Sydney Cemeteries: A Field Guide***

NewSouth, Sydney, 2016, paperback $34.99

This wonderful book by Dr Lisa Murray (City of Sydney Historian, the Dictionary's former chair, Dictionary author and one of the Dictionary's regular radio presenters on 2SER), with gorgeous contemporary photographs by another Dictionary author Dr Mark Dunn and a beautifully thorough index by Dictionary volunteer Dr Neil Radford, is a book close to our hearts and minds.

As she says in her introduction, Lisa does indeed know a thing or two about cemeteries, and in her usual generous, charming style, has written a lovely book which shares her knowledge and enthusiasm.

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**David Hunt, *True Girt The Unauthorised History of Australia. Volume 2***


In *True Girt* Volume 2 Hunt continues this take on Australian history. This is a much bigger book than Volume One. In it he delves into the wild frontiers of white colonial expansion -- the
early settlement of Van Diemen’s Land, the genesis of Melbourne and the emergence of settler communities in Western Australia, South Australia and up to the tropical North.

Have you ever wanted a bit of the Dictionary of Sydney to take home and keep? We 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 water-based Permasel 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.
How to donate

To make a tax-deductible donation, you can go to our online donation page at

Give Now.

If you’d rather send a cheque, please make it payable to the address below and we will mail a receipt to you:

Dictionary of Sydney Inc
Att: The Executive Officer
Dictionary of Sydney
PO Box 23 Glebe NSW 2037

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Thank you for your support

The Dictionary of Sydney is grateful to the City of Sydney, our major government partner from 2006-2016

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