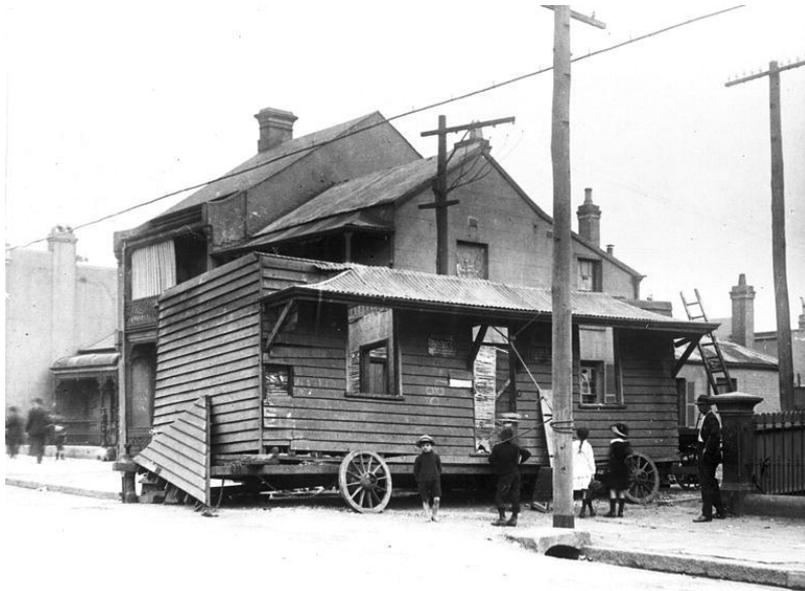




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## Dictionary of Sydney update July 2017



*Pic: House removal, Brown St & Missenden Rd, Camperdown, 10 April 1916 Courtesy City of Sydney Archives (NSCA CRS 51/659)*

### On our way!

Over [the last year, we've been working on moving](#) the Dictionary's content on to a new platform hosted by the State Library of New South Wales, and in the next few days you may notice some changes to the site as we flip the switch and start rolling out these modifications.

Hopefully all will go smoothly and your Dictionary of Sydney service won't be interrupted, but you will notice some differences as you look around the site (see below for further details).

We've had teams of volunteers testing and checking the data during this process but if you do notice anything decidedly odd which we've missed, like strange characters in the text or missing links, please let us know.

Moving the Dictionary onto this platform at the State Library ensures that its content will be archived and remain accessible, even after there is no longer funding to keep adding to the site, and we're very grateful to the Library for making this possible.

The Dictionary of Sydney office is now located in the Mitchell Division at the State Library of NSW and as the Dictionary's Managing Editor, I will be there two days a week. This position is part time and will be funded from the Dictionary's remaining reserves.

This transition was funded by a [special grant](#) from the City of Sydney Council, the Dictionary's founding partner between 2006-2016, and we'd like to thank them again for their long term support of the Dictionary of Sydney.

As we near the end of this project, the Dictionary's wonderful Executive Officer and Editorial Coordinator Jacqueline Spedding is moving on to new opportunities and projects.

On behalf of the Dictionary of Sydney [board](#) and staff, volunteers, and contributors, past and present, I'd like to say a heartfelt thank you to Jacqueline for her contribution and passionate commitment to the Dictionary of Sydney over the last four years. It's been a joy to work with Jacqueline and the University of Sydney Museums are very lucky to have her!

Thank you too to all of the Dictionary's supporters and donors over this period of transition. Your encouragement and enthusiasm has been very much appreciated.

Linda

Linda Brainwood, *Managing Editor, Dictionary of Sydney*  
Email: [info@dictionaryofsydney.org](mailto:info@dictionaryofsydney.org)



## Moving the Dictionary

The Dictionary's content has been moved from an open source database platform called [Heurist](#), which was developed by the former Arts eResearch unit at the University of Sydney, to the open source content management system [Drupal 8](#).

While you will notice some changes to the Dictionary on its new platform, as much as possible has been kept the same given the

available resources and the disparity between the two platforms.

This has required a high degree of customisation and a lot of seriously impressive work from the incredible team at the Library in order to replicate as much of the Dictionary's functionality as possible.

We have been able to include some improvements to the site as well, like our new searchable and sortable [Browse menus](#), which received several thumbs-ups from our volunteer testers. You'll be able to search within each of these menus by an item's title, and refine the search by type as well. You'll even be able to sort entries in the Dictionary by publication date! These title searches are in addition to the Dictionary's general search across the site, which is always available via the Search window in the right hand column.

The general search function does work slightly differently, so if you've regularly done a particular search on the Dictionary you may notice the results are not always in quite the same order as they were.

Credits and citations for images and multimedia material will now appear now when you scroll over a thumbnail so you'll be able to see their source details immediately rather than having to click through to the full record.

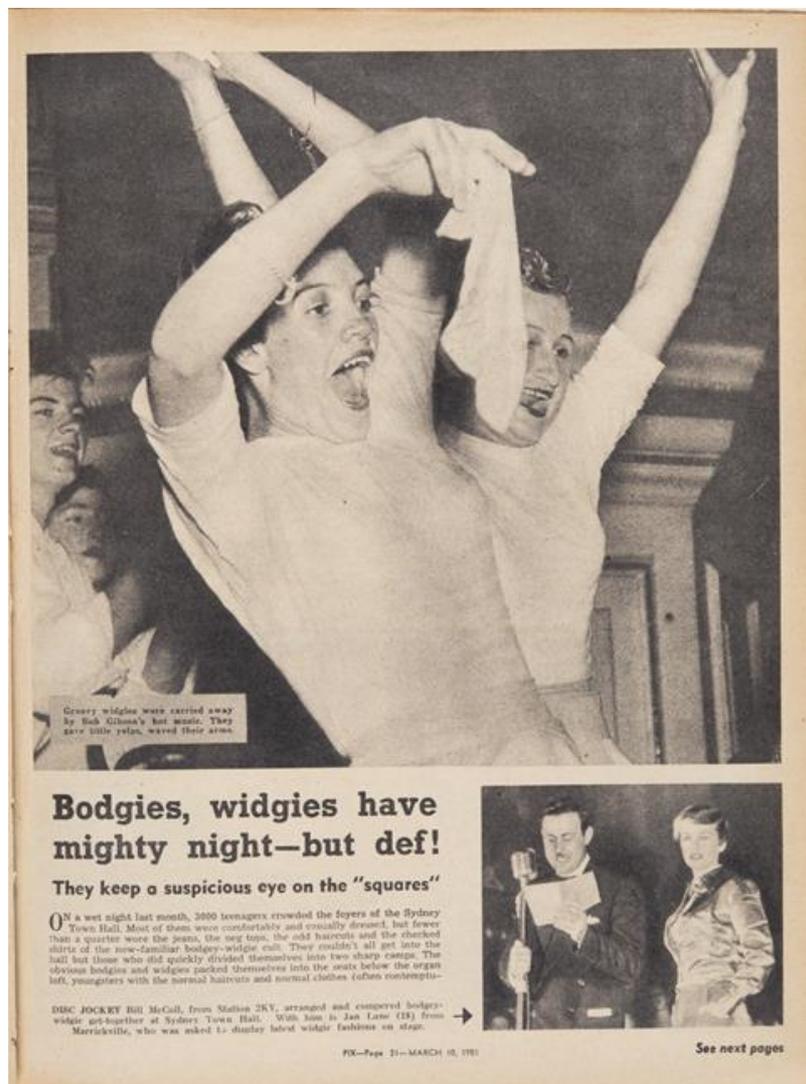
The options to share a page in the Dictionary via social media or email have been modernised and enlarged and moved to the top of the page, so make the most of that!

We can now create 'See Also' connections between pages on the Dictionary, allowing us to do things like link historical entities with contemporary Dictionary contributors. Keep an eye out for those in the right hand column where an item's 'Connections' sit.

We have had to lose some things for now like our overlaid maps sadly, but hope that in the future we may be able to look at these again if funding allows.

The Dictionary URLs will remain the same or will be redirected permanently.

## The Dictionary Top Ten 2016–2017



Bodgies, widgies have mighty night - but def! February 1951 PIX, 10 March 1951, p21 Courtesy State Library of NSW  
 (TN18) <http://dictionaryofsydney.org/media/5154>

Once the transition to the State Library is complete, we'll gradually be able to start publishing new content again, and we have some great entries waiting in the wings.

Until then, we thought we'd share an insight into the Dictionary's most popular articles over the last financial year, as decreed by the Google Analytics report. With over 690,000 page views in the last year altogether, there were a lot of very popular entries, but here are the top ten, by number of page views.

Over half of these are about the history of Sydney's Aboriginal people, reflecting our community's desire for information and stories about Indigenous people, history and culture.

Click on the titles to read them all for yourself!

[The Day of Mourning](#), with 6467 page views, was read more often than any other entry on the Dictionary, while [The myth of the Sydney's foundational orgy](#), by [Grace Karskens](#), with 5991

views was next. (In fact on one day in November 2016, over 2,500 people read this entry.)

Two other articles by Grace Karskens also made our top ten, [Appin Massacre](#) (4015) and [Barangaroo and the Eora Fisherwomen](#) (3,265).

Two entries by [Keith Vincent Smith](#) received over 10,000 views in total, [Woollarawarre Bennelong](#) (5,227) and [Pemulwuy](#) (5,120).

Andrew's Wilson's essay on the [Atlas of the Suburbs of Sydney](#) was viewed 4,343 times, followed by the [Assassination attempt on Prince Alfred 1868](#) (3356) and [Mark Dunn's](#) entry on [Kings Cross](#) (3317).

[Val Attenbrow's](#) fascinating entry [Archaeological Evidence of Aboriginal Life in Sydney](#) (3, 248) completes the list.

## History Week 2017



History Week 2017 is getting closer, and History Council NSW members have now been given until **this coming Friday 14 July** to register their events for inclusion in the calendar.

As History Week enters its 20th year, History Council of NSW members are invited to celebrate popular culture across the decades, to investigate its construction and analyse its impact on communities and individuals.

How has popular culture, whether it be music, theatre, dance, film, television, sport or fashion, changed over time? Who defines it, and why? What does popular culture mean on an individual, community, regional and national level? How has the 'digital age' and 21st century technological change influenced

popular culture? Have we entered a 'new age' of popular culture with audiences as creators, shifts in authority and more democratic modes of creative expression? Is history now part of popular culture?

History Week will explore these questions and many more from 2 to 10 September 2017.

Register your History Week event, or contact the History Council NSW at [admin@historycouncilnsw.org.au](mailto:admin@historycouncilnsw.org.au) if you have any questions about History Week.

**Register your History Week event**

This year's Annual History Lecture '*The Popular is Political: struggles over national culture in 1970s Australia*' will be delivered by [Associate Professor Michelle Arrow](#) on Tuesday 5 September at the Mint. **Bookings can be made on the History Council's website [here](#).**

**Book for the Annual History Lecture**

**Over \$160,000 in paid research opportunities at the State Library of NSW**



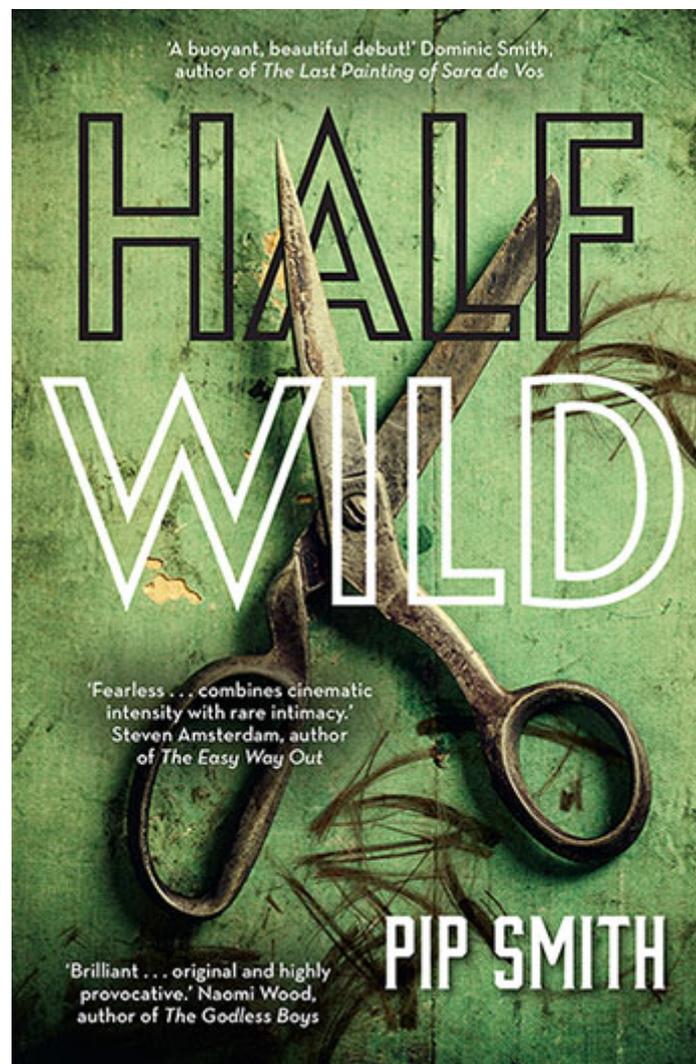
Applications are now open for a number of prestigious fellowships, including the \$75,000 Coral Thomas Fellowship, for a wide range of original research at the State Library of NSW.

**Applications close Monday 17 July 2017!**

Head to the State Library's website [here](#) for further information and to apply.

State Library of NSW Fellowships

## Book reviews



**Pip Smith, *Half Wild*, Allen & Unwin, 2017**

Pip Smith's first novel *Half Wild* recounts and recreates the extraordinary story Eugenia Falleni, successfully blending an exhilarating mixture of historical fact with her own soaring imagination. The result is an unputdownable page turning triumph of a book. I read it over two long sessions quite simply

because I could not wait to find out what unfolded next. And yet, as an historian, I already knew the story...

[Read more](#)



Pic: Training for the new decimal currency - a display of giant coins at the Channel 10 studio in Sydney 1965. By W Brindle. Courtesy: National Archives of Australia (A1200, L52590) <http://dictionaryofsydney.org/media/4361>

**DONATE NOW**

## How to donate

Thank you to all of the donors this year whose generous contributions will help us to continue adding content to the Dictionary over the next year.

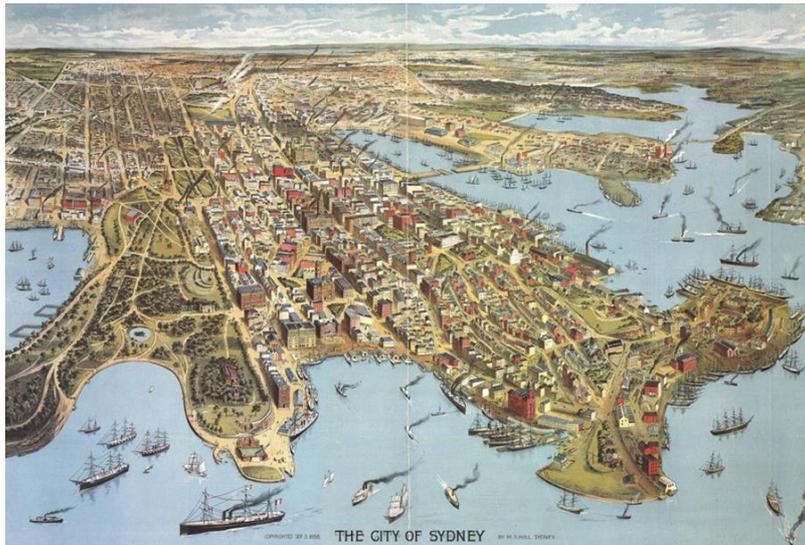
To make a tax-deductible donation, you can still go to our online donation page at [Give Now](#).

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  
/- Mitchell Division  
State Library of NSW  
LG1, Macquarie Street  
Sydney NSW 2000**

*All donations are tax deductible*

**Thank you for your support**



Pic: The City of Sydney (a birdseye view), 1888 by MS Hill Courtesy: City of Sydney Archives / Historical Atlas of Sydney <http://dictionaryofsydney.org/image/97526>

**ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF COUNTRY** The Dictionary of Sydney acknowledges the traditional owners of country throughout Australia and pays respect to elders both past and present. The story of Sydney could not be told without recognising their achievements.



Contact Us  
Dictionary of Sydney  
c/-Mitchell Division, LG1  
State Library of NSW  
Macquarie Street Sydney NSW 2000  
info@dictionaryofsydney.org  
www.dictionaryofsydney.org

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