



# ROYAL AUSTRALIAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY SPRING 2018 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Book online at <https://www.rahs.org.au/events/> or call us on (02) 9247 8001

Date	Time	Event	Presenter	Member	Friend
<b>SEPTEMBER</b>					
<b>1–9 September 2018 History Week – Life &amp; Death</b>					
Tues 4	10am – 11am	RAHS/State Archives & Records NSW Lecture – <i>Archives: Living beyond the Grave</i>	Emily Hanna	Free	Free
Wed 5	1pm – 2pm	RAHS Day Lecture – <i>Sandgate Cemetery 'Unearthed'</i>	Terry St George	Free	Free
Thur 20	5:30pm for 6pm–7pm	RAHS/ASHET Evening Lecture – <i>By Muscle of Man and Horse: Building the Railway under Sydney 1916–32</i>	Bill Phippen	\$10	\$12
Tues 25	2pm – 4pm	RAHS/ISAA Lecture – <i>Charles Dickens and his Performed Readings: A New Art Form</i>	Isabel Deeble	\$10	\$12
<b>OCTOBER</b>					
Wed 3	1pm – 2pm	RAHS Day Lecture – <i>Pigs Behaving Badly: Animal Agency in the Hunter Valley, 1840–60</i>	Nancy Cushing	Free	Free
<b>20–21 October 2018 RAHS Conference – Surveying the Past, Mapping the Present</b>					
<b>NOVEMBER</b>					
Tues 6	5pm – 6pm	RAHS Excursion – Walking Tour of Curlew Camp	David Carment	\$10	\$15
Wed 7	1pm – 2pm	RAHS Day Lecture – <i>River Dreams: The People and Landscape of the Cooks River</i>	Ian Tyrrell	Free	Free
Wed 14	11am – 1pm	RAHS/WEA Workshop – 'What does it say?' <i>The art of deciphering handwritten documents from the late-18th century</i>	Gail Davis	\$32	\$35
Tues 20	5:30pm for 6pm – 7pm	RAHS/ASHET Evening Lecture – <i>The Vital Link: NASA Space Tracking Facilities in Australia in support of the Apollo Lunar Program</i>	Kerrie Dougherty	\$10	\$12
<b>DECEMBER</b>					
Sat 1	9:30am – 3:30pm	Create NSW Regional Seminar – <i>Women, Place and your Community</i>	Various	\$20	\$20
Wed 5	1pm – 2pm	RAHS Day Lecture – <i>Why weren't we told about the Sydney Wars?</i>	Stephen Gapps	Free	Free
Thurs 6	4pm – 7pm	RAHS Christmas Party		Free	Free

Unless otherwise indicated, events take place at History House 133 Macquarie Street. \* Joint RAHS/WEA events must be booked through WEA (02) 9264 2781 or [www.weasydney.com.au](http://www.weasydney.com.au)



**RAHS/State Archives & Records Lecture – *Archives: Living beyond the Grave***

**Tuesday 4 September, 10am – 11am at History House**

**Cost: Free (tea, coffee and biscuits served)**

To mark *History Week* and this year's theme of *Life & Death*, Emily Hanna will explore how the NSW State Archives collection provides an insight into the lives of the departed and the role the State has played in managing death.

**About the speaker:** Emily Hanna is Senior Archivist Access and Information with State Archives & Records NSW. She has managed the Western Sydney Reading Room at Kingswood for many years, providing advice and guidance on using the NSW State Archives collection.

**RAHS Day Lecture – *Sandgate Cemetery 'Unearthed'***

**Wednesday 5 September, 1pm – 2pm at History House**

**Cost: Free (tea, coffee and biscuits served)**

To coincide with *History Week*, join Terry St George as he 'uncovers' some of the well-known and infamous burials in Sandgate Cemetery. The Cemetery was opened in 1881 and continues to service the burial needs of Newcastle to this day. Terry will also discuss how the virtual cemetery data can be used to interpret Newcastle's demographics and history in a new light.

**About the speaker:** Terry St George has a degree in Surveying from the University of New South Wales. He worked for the Department of Lands and became involved with Sandgate Cemetery in 1995, and was also a member of the Trust Board in 2010–14.

**RAHS/ASHET Evening Lecture – *By Muscle of Man and Horse: Building the Railway under Sydney 1916–32***

**Thursday 20 September, 5:30pm for 6pm – 7pm at History House**

**Cost: RAHS/ASHET Members \$10 | Non-Members \$12 (light refreshments served on arrival)**

A chance discovery of a long missing photo album by Sydney Trains' staff during an office relocation in 2016, led to the scanning of 1500 construction photos of the City Railway between 1916 and 1935. Sorted and analysed using Bill Phippen's detailed knowledge of the history of the work and his professional skill, and with financial support of Sydney Trains, more than 900 of the photos have been recently published by the Australian Railway Historical Society (ARHS NSW).

**About the speaker:** Bill Phippen is a graduate of the University of Sydney in Civil Engineering, a Fellow of the Institution of Engineers Australia, and a member of that organisation's Heritage Committee in Sydney. Most recently he has been the Manager of the Railway Resource Centre – the archives section of the ARHS NSW.

**RAHS/NSW Chapter of the Independent Scholars Association of Australia (ISAA) Lecture – *Charles Dickens and his Performed Readings: A New Art Form***

**Tuesday 25 September, 2pm – 4pm at History House**

**Cost: RAHS/ISAA Members \$10 | Non-Members \$12 (afternoon tea served)**

In his third professional career after journalism and fiction, Charles Dickens brought his novels alive on the platform to enthralled crowds in over 400 public presentations. Isabel Deeble will explore why the readings were the great theatrical sensation of the day.

**About the speaker:** Isabel Deeble designs and delivers corporate learning and development in presentation skills, negotiation, influence, behavioural styles, interpersonal communication and high-level workplace communication. Her background in the Performing Arts and in developing curriculum in theatre and drama for Queensland education lies behind her focus on the public readings of Charles Dickens.

**RAHS Day Lecture – *Pigs Behaving Badly: Animal Agency in the Hunter Valley, 1840–60***

**Wednesday 3 October, 1pm – 2pm at History House**

**Cost: Free (tea, coffee and biscuits served)**

The colonial transformations of the Australian landscape were largely engineered by and for sheep and cattle, but other introduced species were also part of this process. This lecture will focus on the pig, the most troublesome of these other animals. As self-directed omnivores, pigs were permitted a level of autonomy which drew public censure, governmental regulation and direct punishment.

**About the speaker:** Nancy Cushing is Associate Professor in History and Assistant Dean Research Training at the University of Newcastle. She combines her interests in environmental history, and more particularly human-animal studies, with studies of Newcastle's past.

**2018 RAHS Conference – *Surveying the Past, Mapping the Present***

**Saturday 20 October – Sunday 21 October at the Westport Club, 25 Buller Street, Port Macquarie NSW 2444**

**For all information about the 2018 Conference, visit: [www.rahs.org.au/2018-rahs-conference/](http://www.rahs.org.au/2018-rahs-conference/)**

Join us as we explore how historians survey the past by searching through records as part of a continuous journey to map the context of events that have shaped our shared history. Our Conference is a wonderful opportunity to learn more about Port Macquarie, with local historians speaking about the experiences of the Birpai, life on the early estates in the Hastings, and Port Macquarie's last convicts. Additionally, attendees will discover new resources and techniques to help survey the past of your own local community and be inspired by historians whose research interests span surveyors' field books and explorers' notes, historical market research, women in business and understanding the social, medical and domestic legacies of WWI.

**RAHS Excursion – Walking Tour of Curlew Camp**

**Tuesday 6 November, 5pm – 6pm at Sirius Cove Reserve, Sirius Cove Road, Mosman NSW 2088**

**Cost: RAHS Members \$10 | Non-Members \$15**

Join RAHS Fellow David Carment for a walking tour of Curlew Camp, located in Mosman on Little Sirius Cove's eastern shore. Established in the late 19th century, some of Australia's best known artists – including Tom Roberts and Arthur Streeton – spent quite long periods of time living in tents at the site and painting the nearby scenery.

**Details:** David will meet attendees at 5pm at the Sirius Cove Reserve, located at the end of Sirius Cove Road. The tour will include a 15-minute walk each way to and from Curlew Camp along a well-maintained track. There are some steps to climb and descend. Participants should wear comfortable walking shoes and bring a bottle of water.

**RAHS Day Lecture – *River Dreams: The People and Landscape of the Cooks River***

**Wednesday 7 November, 1pm – 2pm at History House**

**Cost: Free (tea, coffee and biscuits served)**

Ian Tyrell will discuss his book, *River Dreams: The People and Landscape of the Cooks River*. The text reveals the complex history of the Cooks River in south-eastern Sydney – a river renowned as Australia's most altered and polluted. While nineteenth century developers called it 'improvement', the sugar mill, tanneries, and factories that lined the banks of Sydney's Cook River had drastic consequences for the health of the river. Local Aboriginal people became fringe dwellers, and over time the river became severely compromised, with many ecosystems damaged or destroyed.

**About the speaker:** Ian Tyrell is an Emeritus Professor of History at the University of New South Wales. He was shortlisted for the NSW Premier's History Awards for *Crisis of the Wasteful Nation: Empire and Conservation in Theodore Roosevelt's America* and *True Gardens of the Gods: Californian-Australian Environmental Reform, 1800-1930*.

**RAHS/WEA Workshop – ‘What does it say?’ *The art of deciphering handwritten documents from the late-18th century***

**Wednesday 14 November, 11am – 1pm at History House**

**Cost: RAHS/WEA Members \$32 | Non-Members \$35 (tea, coffee and biscuits served)**

**Bookings through WEA (02) 9264 2781 or online at [www.weasydney.com.au](http://www.weasydney.com.au)**

Join Gail Davis and learn how to read and interpret handwritten documents, beginning with examples from the late-18th century and continuing into the 20th century.

**About the speaker:** Gail Davis has had a long and distinguished career at the NSW State Archives & Records. She has written a number of guides and finding aides including: *Using the Archives Resources Kit*; *A Guide to NSW Archives relating to Federation* and the *Convict Guide*.

**RAHS/ASHET Evening Lecture – *The Vital Link: NASA Space Tracking Facilities in Australia in support of the Apollo Lunar Program***

**Tuesday 20 November, 5:30pm for 6pm – 7pm at History House**

**Cost: RAHS/ASHET Members \$10 | Non-Members \$12 (light refreshments served on arrival)**

In this talk, space historian Kerrie Dougherty will present the story of the NASA tracking stations in Australia and their roles in supporting the Apollo Moon missions from 1968–72. In particular, she will discuss how NASA’s Honeysuckle Creek Station, near Canberra – in conjunction with the Parkes radio telescope – brought the world the live television coverage of the Apollo 11 moonwalk.

**About the speaker:** Kerrie Dougherty is an independent space historian, author and freelance curator. Formerly curator of Space Technology at the Powerhouse Museum, with over 30 years museum experience, Kerrie is also a lecturer in Space Humanities for the International Space University.

**Create NSW Regional Seminar – Women, Place and your Community**

**Saturday 1 December, 9:30am – 3:30pm at the Henrietta Rose Room, Bowral Central Library**

**Cost: \$20 (includes lunch and afternoon tea)**

Associate Professor Carol Liston will highlight the range of records now available online that can help researchers investigate land settlement in the Southern Highlands. Billie Arnall will examine the resources available in the local studies collection at Bowral Municipal Library. Dr Kathrine Reynolds will discuss the joint project she is undertaking with Carol Liston on female convicts transported to NSW between 1801 and 1836. Christine Yeats will delve into the largely forgotten history of silk growing in the late-nineteenth century and consider its links to the Southern Highlands.

**RAHS Day Lecture – *Why weren’t we told about the Sydney Wars?***

**Wednesday 5 December, 1pm – 2pm at History House**

**Cost: Free (tea, coffee and biscuits served)**

Stephen Gapps’ 2018 book *The Sydney Wars* (NewSouth), tells history of military engagements between Europeans and Aboriginal Australians. It is the first detailed account of the warfare that occurred across the Sydney region from the arrival of a British expedition in 1788 to the last recorded conflict in the area in 1817.

**About the speaker:** Dr Stephen Gapps has a long-standing interest in public history and the history of early colonial Sydney. In 2011 he won the NSW Premiers History Prize for Regional and Community history with his book, *Cabrogal to Fairfield: A History of a Multicultural Community*.

**RAHS Christmas Party**

**Thursday 6 December, 4pm – 7pm at History House**

**Cost: Free (light refreshments served) | For catering purposes please RSVP by Friday 30 November**

Join us as we celebrate the festive season and look forward to 2019. Our Christmas Party is a wonderful opportunity for members to meet RAHS staff, Councillors and other individuals interested in history.