Forest Stewardship Council (FSC®) is a globally recognised certification overseeing all fibre sourcing standards. This provides guarantees for the consumer that products are made of woodchips from well-managed forests, other controlled sources and reclaimed material with strict environmental, economical and social standards.
The Jacaranda tree in the Quad collapsed on 28 October 2016.
This image shows four Jacaranda trees in the Quad in 1952. [G3_224_2751]

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Archivist’s notes

Welcome to a fascinating and eclectic edition of Record. I doubt there are many publications that can bring together Daleks, Karl Popper, University landscaping, WWI and anti-conscription in the 1960s in the one volume. There are also highs and sadly, lows.

The high is the inclusion of the University’s Anthropological Field Research and Teaching Records, 1926-1956 in the UNESCO Australian Memory of the World Register. The importance of the records held in the University Archives and the Macleay Museum has long been known by researchers and communities but they now have the public recognition they deserve. My great thanks go to the many people who worked on the nomination, but in particular to my colleagues Nyree Morrison, Karin Brennan and Deborah Gibson and to Dr Jude Philp and Rebecca Conway from the Macleay Museum.

I found all the articles in this issue of interest and it would be invidious to single out any one in particular. They reflect the breadth and depth of the Archives, and the uses to which the records can be put. I will say that it is relevant to review the records of the University’s grounds at a time when the greatest changes to the Camperdown and Darlington campus since the 1850s are underway. I wish to record my gratitude to Jeremy Steele for ensuring the preservation of the work by David Curtis showing the 1981 campus plantings.

I found Anne Picot’s reflections on her thirteen years in the University Archives instructive, you tend not to notice changes while they occur. It is appropriate that we now announce the most recent upgrade to our control system that owes so much to Anne in the same issue where she reflects on its origins. Anne made a major and lasting contribution to many areas of our work and we all wish her well in her retirement.

It is with the greatest sadness that I record the death of friend and colleague Dr Sigrid McCausland. Sigrid was a fixture in my archival career. I first met her when she spoke to the UNSW archive administration students in 1980. Through the Australian Society of Archivists I had the pleasure and privilege of working with her on a number of projects, including the writing of Keeping Archives first and second editions and the Editorial Board of Archives and Manuscripts. Sigrid’s positions as University Archivist at the University of Technology, Sydney and the Australian National University meant we had much in common. I still find it hard to accept that someone so vital and engaged will not be at the next ASA function or at the end of the phone or email. Her legacy will live on in her contributions to the profession through her many activities, writing, and students.

Tim Robinson
University Archivist
The Anthropological Field Research and Teaching Records, 1926-1956 of the University’s Department of Anthropology have been inscribed onto the Australian Memory of the World Register www.amw.org.au/amw-register. The Register is part of UNESCO’s Memory of the World Program which honours documentary heritage of significance for Australia and the world, and advocates for its preservation. The successful nomination was jointly submitted by the University Archives and the Macleay Museum.

The University of Sydney holds the oldest Australian academic anthropology records documenting Indigenous communities in Australia and the South Pacific region. They are historically and culturally significant and in high demand for Land Title claims, family research, and native language revival activities. They are sought after by national and international academics for research.

The University’s Department of Anthropology was the first established at an Australian university. Until the 1950s it was the only department formally teaching anthropology in Australia. Its early professors and their empirical approach dominated the discipline in Australia, influencing government administration regimes and policies regarding Aboriginal and Pacific Islanders from 1926 until the 1950s.

The University’s holdings comprise the personal archives of prominent anthropologists including AR Radcliffe-Brown, AP Elkin, HIP Hogbin and Camilla Wedgwood; records of the Anthropology Department; and records of researchers funded by the Australian National Research Council (ANRC), including WEH Stanner, Olive Pink, Ursula McConnell, and WL Warner.

Included are field notes, genealogies, correspondence, photographs, audio-visual material, reports, secondary sources, and significant objects such as bark paintings and pearl shell ornaments. Together, these materials present a unique record of Indigenous life in Australia and the South Pacific region in the 20th century.

Nyree Morrison at the inscription ceremony at the Canberra Museum and Gallery, 9 February 2017

Drawing by a child from Forrest River Mission sent to anthropologist AP Elkin in the late 1920s. [P130_01_083_1]
Explain! The building of the Sydney University Science Fiction Association Dalek and the Formation of the Australian Dr Who Fan Club.

Dr Anthony Howe

The Dalek featured on the cover of last year’s *Record* was built in 1976. Dr Antony Howe, member of the Sydney University Science Fiction Association (SUSFA) describes how it was built and used.

Forty years later it is amazing to find this University Dalek is still an item of curiosity on campus. The Dalek was an idea that SUSFA engineering students kicked off before I joined. I suspect they may have started planning it in the 1975-76 long vacation, as one of the engineers, Phil Atcliffe, had transferred to us from Melbourne University where our sister club had built a Dalek in 1975. Phil’s friends down there were organising “Unicon II” an inter-varsity Science Fiction Convention set for Easter. The organisers had announced an invitation to rival campuses to enter Daleks for the world’s first ever Dalek Race. Hence the hive of activity I encountered up here, although I don’t know when it started exactly as I was relatively late on the scene, not finding the joint SUSFA-Tolkien Society stall in Orientation Week. It was weeks later that I first blundered into the SUSFA on the 19th March 1976, at a Friday lunchtime meeting, in a rather seedy room in the Holme Building in the rabbit warren above the Refectory. I recall
it being dimly lit, with large, faded, crumbling, dark red leather arm chairs, and other old furniture. There I met Kerrie Dougherty (also in her first year), and Dallas Jones (Dallas had joined in 1973).

This meeting was SUSFA’s Annual General Meeting, and it turned out Alan Sherwood, another engineer, had arranged for Phil to replace him as Secretary Treasurer, but no one had bothered with candidates for President as the job was not seen as important. I nominated myself (being prodded forward by my companion), and then another, much older guy nominated against me (“much”—he was probably only 4 years older than me.) He had been President a few years before, but I got 10 votes, to his 3. I think I won being more foolishly enthusiastic (inexperienced), and getting the support of the many other 1st year students. About ten minutes later there was the realisation I was not even a member! This being the era of Watergate and Nixon someone called out “Impeach”. But I paid the vast membership fee of $1.50 and over the next few years I was re-elected (only once having to face off hostile opponents) until ennui set in, and I faced up to a need to actually do some academic work.

The Dalek had no part in my throwing my mortar board into the ring as I knew nothing about it. My diary notes “they are all a bit vague and disorganised (doubt if much will get done)”. That was to change as, unlike the engineers, who were only interested in the race per se, and their building task, I was a true Doctor Who and Dalek fanatic. As a school boy I had already organised Doctor Who fan activity, so I was delighted when I soon discovered there was a Dalek being built on campus. I suggested at the meeting “we use [the] Dalek in [an] ‘attack’ on [the] ABC [to] complain about [the] ABC’s failure to show all [the] Dr Who episodes”. Many stories had fallen foul of the censor and not been screened.

This suggestion finally led to the “Dalek Demo” at the ABC to protest against their decisions on the 24th of August, and led to the formation of a new club, the Australasian Dr Who Fan Club (since slightly renamed). But this is to race ahead of the story so far.

We were lucky Easter was late that year as much of our invader had to be readied at speed, in terms of the construction. My diary shows that a lot of work still had to be done in April when I first helped out making phone calls for them about lights, ball bearings, etc.

Parts of the Dalek were at a fairly advanced stage, such as the metal working done by Kim Lambert’s father I suspect, but other parts were barely begun. I was tasked to try to locate a tricycle for its propulsion, around which its lower half could be built. The diary I kept was mainly perfunctory “to do” lists, with comments here and there, but even this sparse record tells me there were 16 phone calls that got me nowhere before Kerrie’s family accidentally “donated” the tricycle of her younger brother when it was mistakenly taken by the main builders who should have taken something else.

Alan and Phil made a wooden frame for the gun box and
I recall Kerrie and I hurriedly covered this mid section (the “shoulders”) with flimsy cardboard painted with fibreglass - this was what I mean by a rush job. As the cardboard had started to rip apart a year later Kerrie and I cut up sections of their old family aluminium above ground swimming pool and bent it around the wooden skeleton and managed with some difficulty to get it to look OK. This was done without good equipment and was a difficult task, but made it far stronger.

The main part of the Dalek was built by members of the SUSFA, especially two engineering students, Phil Atcliffe, and Alan Sherwood, very ably assisted by Kim Lambert’s father at his house in Bankstown. Mr Lambert had a big workshop with metal working tools, lathes, etc. and I believe it was he who produced the stunningly realistic gun, the pipes for the plunger arm, and the spun aluminium dome, which sadly was very soft, so every time the head fell off (which seemed to be often) it got dented. Luckily it wasn’t too difficult to press it back into shape. I trekked a long way from home, to help build it a few times in early April.

Sadly for Kerrie’s brother, Phil and Alan cut up the wrong tricycle of her brother’s which was not meant to be donated. It had to be done to widen the axel for stability. They rapidly built the wooden ‘skirt’ around it. They were loosely following the Dalek plans in the BBC’s “Radio Times” Dr Who 10th Anniversary Special - sadly I had not been involved in the planning as I could soon have told them these were very inaccurate.

I vaguely recall painting the Dalek ‘dots’ with Kerrie. These were an awful half-measure being cut out of polystyrene, the easiest way to make them. But not only did they look lumpy and rough, they were a nightmare to paint and glue as some solvents melt that material, forcing us to use water based mucky paint with none of the required high gloss required by Daleks!

Miraculously, the Dalek was ready enough to be strapped to the roof of a car on the 15th of April and driven down to Melbourne University. Kerrie and I went down in a cramped Mini-Minor driven by Alan. She and I were the Who fanatics (never “Whovians”, a much later term concocted by US fans), and we did a HUGE amount of brainstorming on the long trip, and some of the key ideas we kicked around were to become definite projects.

The Race was held on Saturday the 17th April. It was probably the first Dalek Race ever held in the world. Melbourne University students had built their Dalek the year before, but both of the other Daleks did not exist before this event, as they were built to compete against each other. I am guessing, maybe the Melbourne University
Dalek was part built by Phil as he had been there the year before coming up to Sydney for 1976. I have no idea at all whose idea the race was – it was decided before my time.

If detailing of our Dalek was rushed in the workshop at the end, the Adelaide University students were still working on their structure at the starting line just as the race was about to start. It was a weird looking Dalek, presumably meant as a joke, being painted pink, with green dots, and held together with sticky tape! Many parts were of cardboard (not reinforced), and it fell to bits as the race progressed.

Then they were off! Sydney University’s Dalek, secretly equipped with the tricycle, could accelerate, and turn easily through the obstacle course near the start, and shot ahead of Melbourne’s Dalek. The Adelaide Dalek barely moved. In no time the Sydney Dalek raced ahead, and doubled back to make the finish line where the hapless Adelaide Dalek was actually blocking the way through the obstacles. Shouting “Ex-ter-min-ate!” (with electronic voice) Sydney rammed the ramshackle pink Dalek aside, and unleashed our secret weapon, a fire extinguisher firing through the Dalek gun tube! Sydney’s Dalek thus easily reached the finish so won in true Dalek style, amidst calls of protest. I am not sure who our ‘driver’ was, but he was too tall, and his knees kept hitting the inside panels which started to come adrift! Obviously shorter people are better suited to power Daleks.

The 1977 Unicon III was in Adelaide, I am fairly sure they did not hold another Dalek Race, as ours did not go. Even when we held the 5th Unicon in 1979, it was held at a venue in the CBD nowhere near a safe place for a race. But the idea never died as Kerrie later became Curator of Space Technology at the Powerhouse, and was a key figure in the 1990s helping to organise several Dalek races there – but not, sadly with the SUSFA Dalek which had disappeared by then.

The SUSFA Dalek was vital as a prop around which we staged many activities over the rest of the 1970s which helped forge friendships and more of a sense of possibilities for a separate Dr Who club (later in the year). In one of my first roles as President, I represented SUSFA at committee meetings run by the main official student organisations, getting a small amount of financial aid, $100 or so. I also made contacts at these meetings with someone in the Science Society and he supplied some bits of sound equipment for the Dalek voice.

The Dalek made many appearances around Sydney University campus for SUSFA, often being “driven” by Kerrie. There was a special “Honi Soit” (renamed “Dalek Soit”) on June 15th 1976, reporting on the Dalek take-over of the University prior to invading Earth, with photos of exterminations of students in the Main Quad, with, at a less frivolous level, an article on Dr Who, and reviews and reports about SUSFA. These activities directly led to the SUSFA Dalek and many of our more active members, gathering to protest in August outside the ABC head office for deciding to stop buying new episodes of Dr Who from the BBC. In late 1977 the ABC reversed this decision and never looked back. Many credit our efforts with helping to pressure the ABC on this vital national issue! The protest led us to form the Australasian Doctor Who Fan Club which is also 40 this year.

I was President of that until Dallas took over after me in 1984.

In 1977 SUSFA tried to make a comedy “Dalek Invasion Sydney” starring our Dalek in various repainted guises (one being a pink alcoholic Dalek, no doubt inspired by the pink Adelaide Dalek). For the battle against the Time Lords, we needed a massed array, and several fans pitched in to make four more Daleks!! One was paid for (but not built) by the UNSW Science Fiction club, and another man made two, my mother and I completed a fourth begun by Mark Sherringham. Mum had a big role in replacing the dreadful crumbly ‘dots’. The ANZ Bank then had money boxes like out-sized shiny plastic cricket balls, perfect for use on the Dalek army if we could get enough. Luckily the ANZ kindly made a bulk donation of upwards of 100 of these for the film. They were a huge improvement, but were a NIGHTMARE to split in half. I forget how we solved this, but we found we could get them to come apart fairly easily and to spray paint them giving a high gloss finish, which looked vastly better than the original lumps that had been the ‘dots’ before. They were also difficult to attach as the plastic was so thin – there was almost no surface for glue. Sadly the film was never completed (another saga) despite this activity dominating my life in 1977, and wrecking my studies.
The Dalek was also used by SUSFA in making regular appearances for PR purposes, with posters at the library for screenings of science fiction films (especially the two Dalek films), and it paraded around during each Orientation Week for most years that I recall (the origin of the photo on the last issue of Record). The Dalek also starred in 1980 and 1984 University Open Day events.

It got a lot of use for eight years being dragged around campus like this, and needed many repairs, some in the mid 1980s by a future professor of Celtic Studies, Jonathan Wooding. But finding accommodation was always a problem. The tricycle axle had been extended for stability, but the engineers, had not thought about doorways so the Dalek lower half could not get through most entries. It lived at Kerrie’s family’s garage in Five Dock for years, so getting the Dalek onto campus was always a nuisance. Eventually the Dalek was stored on campus for a time, around 1981-1982. The Union had helped to build a room with enlarged double doors off the Barton Room, to house the Dalek and the SUSFA’s library.

I left the University in 1984 and sadly SUSFA fell apart about 1985-6, but its library was saved by the Union and a few years later, I and other former SUSFA members agreed it be gifted to a new similar club, ‘SUTEKH’ that was formed and is still around. The national Dr Who club is still alive and well and celebrated its 40th birthday in August or September this year, we are not sure!

For the 20th anniversary of the Dr Who Club in 1996, we tried to find out what happened to the Dalek. Someone heard it ended up in a student flat, but was abandoned there when the lease ran out. Either it went to the original junkyard (where Dr Who began), or maybe the real Daleks rescued it. Or is it hiding inside the wall of the Vice-Chancellor’s office and secretly controls the world?

Outside Fisher Library, in July 1976, the SUSFA Dalek advertising the screening of, you guessed it, a Dalek film. [Dr Antony Howe]
The collection provides a unique insight into anti-conscription and the beginning of anti-Vietnam War movements in the mid-1960s in Australia. The group formed in 1964 to fight conscription and together with organisations such as ‘Save our Sons’ was at the forefront campaigning against conscription and voiced concerns about Australia’s role in South East Asia.

The National Service Act 1964 was passed by the Federal Parliament in November that year reintroducing compulsory military service. The Act required all 20 year old males to register with the Department of Labour and National Service and, if selected through the “birthday ballot”, a lottery system which selected recruits by their date of birth, they had to serve in the Army for a period of 24 months followed by another three years in the Army Reserve. In 1965 the Defence Act was amended to allow for conscripts to be sent overseas. The founding members of YCAC’s Executive Committee were mostly young men—closely connected to the Labor Party (ALP)—who were affected by the new law as potential conscripts.

Barry Robinson was Secretary of the campaign committee; the papers from his custody provide not only a detailed picture of YCAC activities and collaboration with like-minded people and organisations but also show the breadth of anti-conscription feelings within the Australian community at that time. The papers contain correspondence with individuals directly affected by the scheme—students, tradesmen, office workers, apprentices, shop-assistants and teachers—and also with clergymen, academics, trade unions, and members of Parliament as well as many other like-minded organisations. Interstate YCAC committees were formed, and the group kept contact with similar youth groups in Australia and throughout the Commonwealth and America. This is documented by copies of large numbers of newsletters, pamphlets, flyers and posters produced by these organisations. Not all correspondence is pro YCAC; the group also received anonymous letters and letters that appear to be a hoax attacking the group and its members, often calling them communist. The collection further includes news-cuttings from around Australia and
overseas as well as a folder with material relating to the formation of an ALP Youth Club in 1964.

YCAC undertook a number of initiatives to raise public awareness about conscription and its implications. The first major anti-conscription meeting was held in Sydney’s Lower Town Hall in November 1964 and, according to Barry’s account, some 800 people attended. YCAC is best known for its “Campaign Australia” which aimed to publish a full page advertisement with the names of 200 young men eligible for conscription and outlining YCAC’s policy in regard to overseas conscription. This advertisement appeared in the 19 June 1965 edition of The Australian and was sponsored by donations from individuals, trade unions, student bodies, peace committees, ministers of religion and women’s organisations. YCAC also organised lunchtime rallies in the city, held demonstrations, public debates, organised petitions and had appearances on radio and television. Some young men burned their draft cards at demonstrations in protest. YCAC provided information and occasionally financial support to objectors who sought their assistance. It was also heavily involved in the 1966 federal election campaign supporting the ALP and also ‘running’ a conscript, Brian King, as an independent for the seat of Wentworth. The seat was held and retained by Leslie Bury, then Minister for Labour and National Service.

The return of the Liberals to government was a blow for YCAC. Early in 1967 they canvassed their supporters as to whether they should continue and in which format. Those who responded wanted YCAC to continue and keep publishing its newsletter. Subsequently much of their time was devoted to fundraising for legal aid.

The most active years for YCAC were those from 1965 to 1967. During 1968 the group produced one newsletter which was circulated to some 200 members. At its 84th meeting, the date of which is not recorded but prior to the end of 1969, the Executive Committee discussed its financial status, decided not to incur any further debts, and looked at dissolution of the group. Lack of time and studying for exams is increasingly mentioned in correspondence, which seems to indicate that those who had mainly been responsible for the activities of YCAC no longer had the time to continue with them. Ironically, at a time when the anti-Vietnam War sentiments were growing, YCAC, a peaceful and anti-conscription focused organisation, ceased to exist.
WHY THE RUSH NOW!

THE "CAMP" EXISTS ONLY in the minds
of those who prefer walking pristine
beaches to peaceful negotiation.

YOU MAY NOT BE ABLE TO VOTE —
BUT YOU CERTAINLY CAN RAISE YOUR VOICE!

ATTEND THIS MEETING:

"YOUTH CAMPAIGNS AGAINST CONScription"
LOWER TOWN HALL
SUNDAY, 29TH. NOVEMBER — 7 p.m.

Programme will include:
GARY SHEARSTON
KEVIN BUTCHER
DR. JIM CAIRNS NISH
DR. ALLAN ROBERTS
Rev. TED HOFFS

Young speakers from universities, trade unions, schools and offices

IF YOU ARE 16 YEARS OR OVER — YOU MUST BE THERE!
(If you are too old to serve — just ask the primer, brother!)  

Authorised by J. HUNN, Secretary, YCAC, Organising Committee, 7-11 Rupert Street, Paddington.

ARE YOU READY
YOUNG MAN?

○ TO BE A PEACE-TIME CONSCRIPT
FOR THE FIRST TIME IN AUSTRALIA'S HISTORY?

○ TO FIGHT AGAINST COUNTRIES
NOT AT WAR WITH AUSTRALIA!

○ TO GIVE UP THE NEXT TWO YEARS
AND POSSIBLY YOUR LIFE?

○ TO TAKE UP LIGHTING
BEFORE YOU ARE GIVEN THE VOTE?

Instead of becoming your trade, or using
your uni. degree, or just riding your
board at Bondi —

Are you ready to fight outside
Australia, when your Government
decides to send you?

OUR NATIONAL GOVERNMENT WAS NOT ELECTED IN 1964 WITH
A MANDATE TO CONSSCRIPT YOU IN 1964 —

NO AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT WAS EVER GIVEN THAT RIGHT BY
ANY ELECTION OR ANY REFERENDUM!

First meeting arranged by YCAC, November 1964 [Series 1150]

Response to 'Campaign Australia' newspaper ad, June 1965 [Series 1151]

Anonymous letter sent to YCAC Secretary, n.d. [Series 1150]
University Gardens

Nyree Morrison, Senior Archivist

Earlier this year the Archives received 18 maps showing the layout of the University gardens and plants on the Camperdown Campus in 1981. The maps are the surveyor’s drawings, prepared between 1969-1976, with the gardens and flora hand drawn in ink pen over the top by David Curtis from the Botany Department. Curtis’s drawings were made during the period, June – November 1981. The maps accompany his unpublished manuscript *The University of Sydney Grounds and Gardens. From Bushland to Present Day* (1981). The manuscript and maps arose from a request by the Botany Department’s Professional Officer Ms Jan Jacobs for a brochure to be written about the University of Sydney gardens for 3000 visiting botanists to the International Botanical Congress (IBC) in 1981.

The manuscript is a detailed survey of the plants, trees and gardens of the University at the end of 1981. It does not however include the gardens around the Darlington precinct. It is a fascinating and detailed history of the gardens of the University and includes a garden walk along Eastern Avenue from the Carslaw to the Botany Buildings compiled for the IBC delegates in August 1981. There is also information on some of the trees on campus prepared for a Garden Walk in the preceding month, of some of the trees on Science Rd, the Vice-Chancellor’s Garden, Botany Lawn and the Jacaranda in the Quad (which sadly collapsed on 28 October 2016).

The colour map on the cover of *Record* is a beautiful 1957 drawing of the University and the grounds showing the trees and green space on campus at that time. The Camperdown campus has changed significantly over the years with building works, but do we ever stop to think about the gardens, trees and plants? It would be interesting to compare the 1957 map with the fine detail and research that Curtis showed in 1981 and see the changes that took place in the intervening period. A new survey now, some 30 years on, of the gardens and trees on campus would give a wonderful further comparison.
Following on from looking at plans of the University gardens, these images of the University grounds not only show the expansion of the University but the changes in the surrounding areas too.
Aerial view of the main building and surrounds looking south west. Olive trees can be seen on University Place, 1952

Colour aerial views of the Camperdown Campus and surrounds, © 1991

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Beyond 1914 – The University of Sydney and the Great War

Elizabeth Gillroy, World War 1 Centenary Project Officer

New Research project

Two years in, the project Beyond 1914 - The University of Sydney and the Great War has inspired the establishment of a national project to develop a database of university men and women, with World War One experience.

The new project, Expert Nation: Universities, War and 1920s and 30s Australia, will unlock the records of approximately 6,500 men and women from the universities of Sydney, Melbourne, Adelaide, Tasmania, Queensland and Western Australia who served in the Great War.

Funded by the Australian Research Council, it is a partnership between Sydney and Melbourne Universities and will investigate how Australian university graduates with World War One experience contributed to the formation of the post-war Australian nation.

Led by Dr Tamson Pietsch, Associate Professor Julia Horne and Professor Stephen Garton (University of Sydney), and Professor Kate Darian Smith and Dr James Wagorne (University of Melbourne), it theorises the relationship between Australia’s participation in World War One and the production and dissemination of expert knowledge, including the creation of new professions, in the 1920s and 1930s.

An initial stakeholder meeting was held in Sydney in May, attended by archivists from the participating universities and representatives of the National Archives of Australia and the Australian War Memorial.

Preliminary research has increased the database listing to more than 4900 names of the men and women who were listed on university Honour Rolls. Further research will identify additional people who undertook war service within Australia or with non-Australian military and volunteer forces.

This project aims to shift the focus of analysis from the ANZACs as a generic category towards specific groups of ANZACs and their education and training and their impact on the development of Australia, placing knowledge and expertise at the heart of the national story in the interwar years.

Expert Nation will create a new national archives infrastructure, for the first time bringing together the records of thousands of men and women from national universities, with records from the Australian War Memorial, National Archives of Australia and from personal collections.

Educational Resource for Schools using Beyond 1914

The Beyond 1914 team is working towards the development of an online education resource. In March last year an informal presentation was held for teachers of secondary and primary students together along with school archivists. The aim was to introduce the website to practicing professionals and gather their suggestions
and advice on possible uses of the website as a resource in the classroom.

The event was well attended and began with a tour of the University war memorials including a visit and demonstration of the memorial bells in the carillon.

The presentation included Associate Professor Julia Horne highlighting the historical themes explored in *Beyond 1914* and Dr Hugh Chilton, Scots College Research Unit, presenting how the website was employed in research projects with his secondary history students. Additionally, Kate Smythe Lecturer Faculty of Education, History Curriculum K-6, examined the website as a tool for primary students to observe, reflect and question through digital stories and process drama in the construction of historical narratives.

Feedback from the session was very positive and it is now planned to seek external funding for the development of education resources, which will be aligned to the new national curriculum, across both primary and secondary education.

The *Beyond 1914* project continues to add detail to existing records and uncover additional people not previously listed in university war records. One of these is Trixie Geraldine Whitehead (1875-1952), who worked for the War Trade Intelligence Department in London during the war. She was a scholar of languages studying at both Sydney and Melbourne University and then undertaking an MA at Girton College Cambridge, where she is thought to have been the first woman to win the classical tripos in 1903.

The University of Cambridge was not yet issuing degrees to women, but Dublin University offered her an Honorary MA. Trixie would not accept this offer until she had sat the exam and earned it. She worked as a headmistress in private schools in both England and Switzerland. If you have any further information on Trixie we would be glad to hear from you.

Research on respective alumni provided by the participating residential colleges has all been added to the database over the last year. The Heurist database (a database which can manage heterogeneous and relatively unstructured data) holds detailed information around post-war careers and university connections, which are not yet displayed on the website. Continued improvements to the proficiency between the website and the Heurist database are being explored.

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**Social Media Project Updates**

2016 marked the centenary of many commemorations of the Great War and was an opportunity to showcase the quality of our archival collection on the front page of the website, in the e-newsletter and on our new facebook page.

The following is a personal observation by Walter Lawry Waterhouse of the preparation for the Battle of Pozieres (23 July - 3 September 1916) from the University Archives:
On Saturday 22 July word came that we were to attack the village that night and during the day we were kept busy perfecting plans as far as possible. We each wore a patch of pink cloth on the back of the coat collar and went over in the charge with coat sleeve rolled up – small precautions against Fritz trying to pass himself off as an Australian. In addition, a distinctive coloured ribbon was worn on the shoulder by those detailed for 1st line or wave, 2nd and 3rd wave, the object of these being to indicate whether or not a man was shirking or hanging back. All officers were dressed like a private and carried rifles.

Many cases of splendid bravery came to light, wounded men digging for all they were worth and so on; in one case the opposite occurred and I had to draw my revolver on a man (a stranger) sneaking away to the rear. I was glad at last to get into touch with Capt. Herrod, and find that he had the boys in his vicinity digging with a will. It was fairly uncertain work in the dim light, but, as it afterwards turned out, our line of trenches was correctly situated, and our company (what was left) exactly in position.

The 4th Battalion went over beyond us, and took up a position along the main road – what proved afterwards more or less a death trap owing to the German guns being accurately ranged on it.

Walter Lawry Waterhouse graduated BSc Agr (1914), winning the University medal. In 1929 he was the first person to be awarded the degree Doctor of Science in Agriculture from the University of Sydney. He was highly regarded in the scientific field, developing a number of rust resistant varieties of wheat and lectured at the University for many years until his retirement in 1952.

Beyond 1914 has been developed with generous funding by the Chancellors Committee and four residential colleges – St Andrew’s, St John’s, St Paul’s and Women’s Colleges.
The Scurvy Treatment of Karl Popper

John Carmody

This paper was part of a seminar presented to the History of University Life seminar series, St Paul’s College, 4 November 2015.

With World War II approaching its end, the Professor of Political and Moral Philosophy, Alan Stout, and the young John Passmore (future Professor of Philosophy at the ANU) persuaded John Anderson (Challis Professor of Philosophy) that science, engineering and technology would, as never before, be of great importance to the post-war world and that, accordingly, the university must prepare its students for this world.

Their advice was that Anderson should seek the appointment of the world’s pre-eminent philosopher of science, the Vienna-educated Dr Karl Popper, who as a refugee from the Nazis was living and teaching in Christchurch (NZ).

In February 1945, therefore, Popper’s name was amongst a long list of academic appointments which the Professorial Board unanimously approved and referred to the University Senate for ratification. The Senate did not quite do that at its next meeting on 6 March. Instead, it removed Popper’s name from the list, endorsed all of the others without comment, and then, after what was reported in the Daily Telegraph next day as a ‘stormy’ debate, approved the Popper appointment by the narrowest of majorities.1 The Telegraph quoted Stout: “Dr Popper is a man of outstanding ability and has an international reputation as a philosopher....the sort of man who might be invited to a chair in any university in the Empire”. Many newspapers, including a number in New Zealand, republished the story.

In the NSW Legislative Assembly on 15 March, the Protestant church-allied member of the conservative Opposition, Mr Gordon Jackett, asked, ‘Has the attention of the Minister for Education been drawn to a statement

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1. Austrian appointed to University post’, Daily Telegraph (Sydney), 7 March 1945.
appearing in the press relating to the appointment to a chair at the University of Dr Karl Popper, described as an alien? Is it a fact that the decision as to this appointment was made on the voices of those present? Will the Minister say whether proper attention had been given to the claims of other gentlemen of English and Australian nationality, and whether in the future the University is to be regarded as the preserve of foreigners and refugees?'

Jackett’s snide tone is not atypical of wartime Australian xenophobia, and the phrase ‘an alien’ is significant because at its April meeting, the University Senate received several letters from serving soldiers’ organizations, protesting against Popper’s appointment on the grounds that he was ‘an unnaturalised enemy alien’. Granted that Popper’s important book, Logik der Forschung ['The logic of scientific research'], which was published in 1935, had not yet appeared in English translation; and granted that an aspect of the local hostility to the Popper appointment was a pervasive (and persistent) Australian xenophobia, even so, it was a clear re-play of the anti-Semitic public campaign which had been run in Sydney in 1942 after the announcement of Julius Stone’s selection as Challis Professor of Jurisprudence and International Law (interestingly, also from a post in New Zealand [Dean in Auckland]).

Whatever the real explanation, it is appalling that it was ventilated in such a crude manner in the State Parliament. To his credit, the Minister, Mr Robert Heffron, replied: ‘The appointment of Professors at the University is the responsibility of the University Senate. As Minister for Education I have no power to interfere with such appointments. It has generally been insisted in this house that the Government should not be in a position to dominate the University; any suggestion that it should do so is usually met with very strong opposition in certain parts of the house. Whatever the University has done has been on its own responsibility, and strictly in accordance with the powers possessed by the Senate under the University Acts’.

The fears and protests of those xenophobes were soon proven to be as needless as they were ignorant, because on 8 March Popper cabled the Registrar withdrawing his application, as he also advised Anderson in a letter on 12 March. Clearly, he had been affronted by those newspaper reports – worse, he thought, in New Zealand than in Australia (‘not even mitigated by flattery’) – and was, plainly, unwilling to work in a university where the Senate had been so equivocal about his appointment. Even so, having received supportive letters and cables from people in the Sydney Philosophy Department, he wrote to Anderson, ‘I may have been too hasty’. These ‘completely changed my outlook, and now I should like very much to come to Sydney’. There was a caveat, however. Popper divulged to Anderson that, for some months, he had been corresponding with the London School of Economics about a position there (about which he also informed the Registrar in Sydney) and, indeed, received that appointment later in the year. Thus while he assured Anderson that ‘I have definitely made up my mind to go to Sydney should my London prospects fail’, that never eventuated and the decidedly freemason Sydney University was spared another potentially troublesome Jew – a pattern which they repeated 20-odd years later when they rejected Frank Knopfelmacher. No less importantly, Sydney University neuroscience, which would blossom within the decade by the appointment of the late Peter Bishop, and other colleagues, was thus deprived of Popper’s influence. Indeed, his antipodean influence was lost.

3. Professor John Anderson papers: University of Sydney Archives.
By a window

Exhibition at the Verge Gallery, 4 August – 27 August 2016

By Sian McIntyre (Verge Gallery) and Claire Monneraye (Australian Centre for Photography)

By a window was an exhibition about two photographs, the people who made them and the stories they revealed. The exhibition was also an invitation to explore the history of the areas surrounding the University of Sydney and a platform to highlight some people and organisations that have had the passion and drive to create change locally, nationally and internationally.

When Verge Gallery and the Australian Centre for Photography decided to develop a collaborative project in 2015, the initial idea was to investigate the photographic collection of the University of Sydney Union art collection and find new ways to think and present key works. Integral to the project was the development of a curatorial mentoring program that would benefit two students currently enrolled at the University of Sydney.

Amongst the vast collection, two photographs were simply unavoidable, two portraits from the larger series Portraits by a window shot by renowned artist Michael Riley (1960–2004) in 1990. Following the rules of classic photographic portraiture, the series has deeply marked the history of Australian photography and contributed to challenge long-established representational modes.

As Michael Riley said ‘I was interested in representing Aboriginal people in a different light, in a different way to the negative images in the paper and media. I’d decided to do an exhibition of portraits called Portraits by a window of young urban Aboriginal people in the ’80s who were doing their own thing, mixing into society, trying to, I suppose, break the stereotype of what Aboriginal people are. It’s a collection of portraits of young Aboriginal people who were striving to do things in their own fields differently. I suppose you could call them ‘movers and shakers’ – people who get out and do things, want to change things, change themselves, want to move on, sort of break away from the stereotype.’

These two incredibly arresting and powerful portraits of Dorothy (Tudley) Delany and Charles and Adams Perkins would become the starting point of months of research and discussion. By a window was our attempt to present some of the many overlapping and interweaving threads, timelines and stories that exist between the artist, the subject of the photographs as well as key sites and movements that have not only significantly shaped the
local communities of Chippendale, Darlington and Redfern but also our shared cultural and social identity.

Helping to bring these stories and threads together was material from the University of Sydney Archives, which included photographs of the Tin Sheds Art Workshop, an aerial view of the University, newspaper cuttings, and a minute book, annual reports and images from The Settlement.

One aspect of the exhibition highlighted Charles Perkins and the 1965 Student Action Plan for Aborigines' Freedom Ride. The Freedom Ride started out at the University of Sydney where The Settlement Neighbourhood Centre was first conceived by the Sydney University Social Services Society; where Michael Riley took his first photography class on campus at the Tin Sheds; and where Perkins later graduated in 1966.

*By a window* also recognised Boomalli Aboriginal Artist Cooperative in Chippendale, founded by Riley and significant peers, where he shot his *Portraits by a window* series; this is also where Dorothy Delaney worked before working at The Settlement, a community centre in Redfern established in 1925 by the Sydney University Women's Society that was formed by Jane Foss Russell in 1891. In a phone conversation with Dorothy she explained The Settlement as 'the settling of differences between white and black'.

Other key artists presented included Tracey Moffatt, Avril Quaill and Fiona Foley, all of whom were founding members of Boomalli thirty years ago and participated in significant community projects such as The Settlement Mural Project in 1985 or The South Sydney Visual History Project, organised by Geoffrey Weary in collaboration with Tin Sheds in 1983.

The stories in *By a window* are also deeply linked to our two institutions, whilst Verge Gallery is located on the Jane Foss Russell Plaza, on the previous site of the old Tin Sheds workshops, the Australian Centre for Photography supported Michael Riley’s practice through exhibitions and darkroom access.
**Archives news**

**Archives Control System CHAOS – enhancements and Archives Online**

The Archive control system, CHAOS (Control and Handling of Archives Operating System) has been redesigned and enhanced to give the Archives improved searching and control of the holdings. With these enhancements, the Archives are pleased to announce that selected holdings are now available to search publicly online [https://uniarchivesonline.sydney.edu.au](https://uniarchivesonline.sydney.edu.au)

The migration of information from older databases and paper based systems is continuing.

The anthropological field notebooks and records of Professors AR Radcliffe Brown and AP Elkin can be searched by place and language through a geo-spatial map of Australia [https://uniarchivesonline.sydney.edu.au/#/search/map](https://uniarchivesonline.sydney.edu.au/#/search/map) (see image below). Through a project that was undertaken a few years ago in the Archives, field notebooks, correspondence, research notes, unpublished manuscripts, songs and genealogies were indexed to improve accessibility to these records for Aboriginal communities and researchers. The detailed item descriptions now provide more information including language and place which allow items to be found geo-spatially.

**In memory**

It is with sadness that we report on the passing of a dear colleague Dr Sigrid McCausland. Sigrid worked at the University of Sydney Archives in 2008. She was a leader in the international community of archival educators, and in October last year, she was awarded Fellow of the Australian Society of Archivists in recognition of her immense contribution to archival education and practice. She had previously worked at the University of Technology, Sydney and the Australian National University. She was recently senior lecturer in the School of Information Management at Charles Sturt University.

You can read the full Fellowship citation for Sigrid here [www.archivists.org.au/documents/item/887](http://www.archivists.org.au/documents/item/887)
Aboriginal Photographs Research Project

Rosemary Stack, the Indigenous Photograph Research Officer, has completed describing not only the images from South Australia within the papers of Professor of Anthropology, AP Elkin, as mentioned in last year’s Record, but also those identified as taken in Western Australia. The descriptions for the images will be available for searching online later this year. They have been indexed by place and language where possible and can be searched on the map or through the records search.

The University of Sydney News/UniNews

The Archives have digitised The University of Sydney News/UniNews from 1969-2004. The indexes and editions up to 1980 are currently available at sydney.edu.au/arms/archives/uninews.shtml The remaining volumes will be added gradually throughout the year.

The News is a fantastic resource for looking at the research projects undertaken over the years, the academic and sporting achievements of students and staff, staff obituaries, new appointments, updates from senate meetings, various events on at the University, topics/news that are highlighted such as the need for staff to recycle paper in 1992 (25 February 1992) and the launch of an online database of dogs and their inherited disorders by the Faculty of Veterinary Science to help potential dog owners choose a healthy breed of dog (17 September 2004).

Test your knowledge of the University below in the Welcome Day Quiz in the February 25 1978 Special Edition.
Reflections of working at the University Archives

Anne Picot

After working at the University Archives for 13 years, Anne Picot retired in 2016. Here she reflects on the changes in those years and the challenges ahead for the Archives.

When I joined the Archives of the University of Sydney in 2002, on the top floor of the Fisher Library building, overlooking Victoria Park with glimpses of the Harbour Bridge, the holdings of the Archives were almost entirely paper-based, as were most of the main records of the University. Every student had a paper-based file and staff files were entirely controlled by a card system. The minutes of Senate, the University’s governing body, were only available on paper.

Some advances towards electronic document management had been made with the introduction of a computer system for managing the student records and the establishment of a new system for other types of records – ‘TRIM’. Microfilming rather than digitisation was the principal mechanism of preservation for records. However, only a few record groups such as the Senate Minutes and Academic Board Minutes were deemed worthy of being preserved in microfilm. Access to the University’s Archives was managed through a system written in dBase.

Finding records in the Archives was an arcane exercise even before taking into account the labyrinthine layout of the old shelving to retrieve them.

The contrast with today, some 13 years later is quite extraordinary. The Archives still occupies a portion of the top floor of the Fisher Library building, but it is now at the southern end, still with outstanding views. The new search room is spacious, light-filled and large enough to host convivial gatherings of colleagues and friends for special archival occasions. The Archives accepts electronic records into custody, controlled in a digital archival system, Control and Handling of Archives Operating System ‘CHAOS’ and held in the TRIM electronic documents store, which is the primary repository for the University’s electronic records.

The old paper based records have migrated to almost entirely electronic systems. Many of the 1990s systems have been replaced by business-specific applications, some of which save records into the TRIM electronic documents store. The Senate and Academic Board minutes are now in electronic format. The impact of the change in communication and registration methods as paper letters and forms have been replaced with email and online processes is amazing. The role of the archivist in this electronic world is challenging to say the least. In my case the challenge was increased by the related information activities associated with statutory access requirements under state privacy and freedom of information legislation which also fell within the remit of the University Archives. The number and complexity of applications for University information under these acts grew exponentially over the 13 years I worked at the University. Grappling with this and still managing the work of the archives not least the daily reference inquiries of our (paper) holdings and implementation and development of the new archival control system (CHAOS) created challenges for all the staff. Demand-based work can be so over-whelming it is difficult to reflect at the time on how our work is changing.

Archivists have always been information brokers. In the world of Google and Facebook access to information is instant but unless you know how to read it, the metadata attached to any information retrieved is generally ignored or not understood. Providing Internet-based access to archival information has pushed archival institutions to try to imitate the apparent simplicity of Google-based searching. This is worrying if the necessity of maintaining links between information or records and context is overlooked. The task of managing the contextual metadata over time adequately linked to the records is even more necessary for Internet-based presentation of information. I am proud of the University Archives’ archival control system, based on the principles of the Peter Scott system (also known as the Australian series system) which records information about records and the records creators – University agencies and people – in parallel. The Collaborative work of the University’s archivists to develop and implement the system based on the former State Archives and Records Authority of NSW Operating System (called BOS) has produced a control system which should manage the holdings and enable Internet-based searching of the archives into the next decades.

The challenges of electronic archives, Internet-based access and the continuing rise in demand will go on. The challenges of managing largely electronic records and information may become more and more familiar but will surely not grow less demanding. I have learnt so much in my years at the Archives of the University of Sydney and connected with wonderful colleagues whom I now count as equally wonderful friends in my retirement.
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