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# DICTIONARY *of* SYDNEY



[www.dictionaryofsydney.org](http://www.dictionaryofsydney.org)

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## **Fresh support from the City of Sydney**

At the Council meeting on the 31<sup>st</sup> of May, the City of Sydney Council unanimously passed a resolution to renew their support for the Dictionary in the form of a sponsorship agreement worth \$275,000 in 2010/11 with the possibility, subject to review, of further support after that in addition to accommodation for the next 5 years.

This was a fantastic vote of confidence from City which has been such a generous and enthusiastic supporter of the Dictionary since its inception.

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## **Lisa Murray confirmed as City Historian and Chair of the Board of Trustees**

Lisa Murray was recently confirmed in her role as City Historian for the City of Sydney and therefore as Chair of the Board of Trustees for the Dictionary of Sydney. It is very pleasing that the Dictionary will continue to benefit from Lisa's passion for the project and knowledge of Sydney's history.



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## **Further Australian Research Council (ARC) grant**

The technical work of the project received a boost with news of success with a further ARC grant involving the Dictionary of Sydney Trust, Sydney University (through the Digital Innovation Unit and the Fisher Library), the Powerhouse Museum, Historic Houses Trust and State Records. This will enable a further phase of technical development and an opportunity to investigate the idea of 'living exhibitions' where, rather than being packed away, exhibitions staged by museums or other institutions can 'live on' digitally in the Dictionary.

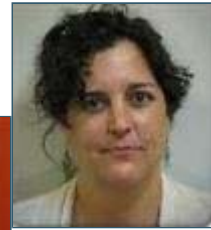
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## **Multimedia work resumes**

After a bit of a gap, work on sourcing and integrating multimedia into the Dictionary has resumed with the appointment of Linda Brainwood ....

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... and the return of Paul Howard to the position of multimedia researcher. Look out for a batch of new images in the next release.



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### **A fascinating artefact!**

You may have seen the article in the Sydney Morning Herald recently about the house in Petersham in which were discovered an extraordinary set of murals dating from the 1880s and depicting a range of contemporary figures including General Gordon, Ned Kelly and Governor Loftus (pictured). The Dictionary arranged for some high quality photos to be taken and we will interview the owner of the house (and discoverer of the murals), Keith Sutton, about how they were found and his efforts to preserve them. An entry on the murals should appear the next time we regenerate the website around the end of July.



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### **On the front page**

Every fortnight or so, the front page of the Dictionary of Sydney is updated with new images and links to the featured material of the day. Sometimes we find a theme, such as Mardi Gras, or Easter, allows us to bring together a range of linked material, and sometimes we want to draw people's attention to a group of interesting entries and entities. We'll be rebuilding the site in July, and highlighting the new material we've included, so keep your eye on the front page.

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### **The Dictionary of Sydney and your local library**

During May, the Dictionary team gave presentations to regional library managers groups from Western Sydney (at Toongabbie), Northern Sydney (at Manly) and Southern Sydney (at Eastgardens). We demonstrated the site and its capabilities, and asked for feedback on how we could work more closely with local government and library services to provide access and content to readers and researchers.

The talks were very useful to us, and the managers suggested a number of new ways that the project can seek collaboration and partnerships in local government, which we will be following up as soon as we can.

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### **Dictionary of Sydney at the Expanding Horizons conference**

Emma Grahame, editorial coordinator, was invited to speak at a symposium on urban history held in Adelaide in May. The conference was titled Expanding Horizons: History, the City and the Web, and Emma spoke about the process of building the Dictionary, and what has been learnt. It was very gratifying to be able to demonstrate from the site, and the project received a very warm reception. There are a number of other digital history projects around the country, and it was very useful to chat to others who are setting out on this path. Projects are in the planning stages for online city histories of Adelaide and Perth, and the online Encyclopedia of Melbourne is also resurgent.



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### Look out for new content!

New entries that have gone up on the site so far this year include:

Places:

**The Domain, Darlinghurst, Currans Hill, Denistone and Denistone West**

Buildings:

**Hero of Waterloo hotel**

Structures:

**Spit bridge**

Organisations:

**Sydney Technical College**

People:

**Castel, William Henry; Cogswell, Nathaniel; Anderson, Maybanke**

Events:

**Royal Easter Show, Chinese New Year**

Artefact:

**Spanish (holey) dollar** (pictured)



A host of new pictures, entries and other information will be added to the site in July.

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### Sydney Journal

A new issue of the Sydney Journal is now available featuring articles on Children and Sailing, the Koreans and the Lao and several suburbs.

» [Sydney Journal](#)

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### Remember you can donate!

Remember our online donations facility at Everyday Hero is always available if you or your friends or colleagues if they would like to help out with financial support.

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#### Address

Dictionary of Sydney  
Town Hall House  
GPO Box 1591  
Sydney NSW 2001

#### Contact

E: [info@dictionaryofsydney.org](mailto:info@dictionaryofsydney.org)

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