

DICTIONARY *of* SYDNEY



www.dictionaryofsydney.org

History Week is here!

As history buffs, we will all have our plates full this week as History Week starts cooking. This year's theme is EAT History, and there are hundreds of events planned, all feeding off the history of food and drink. Billed as 'a smorgasbord of delectable delights', History Week is a feast, and we can only hope that our eyes are not bigger than our stomachs.

Find the full program at the History Council's website and choose a menu of historical tastes for your History Week!

<http://www.historycouncilnsw.org.au/history-week/view>

Image: Oyster farmers David Corstorphine of Tuncurry, aged 78 and Fred Selmon of Georges River, aged 70, enjoy oysters at Dolls Point, photo by Sam Hood, from the Mitchell Library, SLNSW a368001 / PXE 789 (v.38), 1



Having a coffee with Inside History

The next issue of *Inside History*, due out in September, includes a Dictionary article by Garry Wotherspoon on Coffee in Sydney. Did you know that coffee was grown in the gardens of First Government House as part of the early attempts to find out what would prosper in the antipodean climate?

Unfortunately, it didn't form the basis of a flourishing industry, and Sydney today is far from self-sufficient in coffee. The article traces the story of coffee from experimental crop, through the craze for Coffee Palaces, up to today's lattes, espressos and macchiatos.

The Dictionary has an ongoing partnership with *Inside History*, so look out for Dictionary articles in future issues.

You can find *Inside History* in your newsagent, or subscribe online here:

<http://www.insidehistory.com.au/>

Image: Coffee jug awarded to the Reverend S Marsden by the Agricultural Society of NSW 1825 (SLNSW a1177014 DR 30)



Francis Forbes Society 2011 Essay prize

The Francis Forbes Society for Australian Legal History (named for the first Chief Justice of NSW, pictured) offers [an annual prize for the best Australian Legal History essay](#) submitted. The competition is open to school and undergraduate students, in three categories.

- Tertiary students - 2000-4000 word essay, prize \$1,000 and a \$1,000 Abbey's book voucher
- Senior secondary students - 750-2,000 word essay, prize \$250 and a \$250 Abbey's book voucher
- Junior secondary students - 500-1,000 word essay, prize \$250 and a \$250 Abbey's book voucher

Best of all, entrants can choose their own question or theme, or write on one suggested by the society. If in doubt, contact the society to check whether a topic is within the guidelines.

The essays must be submitted by Monday 12 December 2011, so if you know a promising student, studying history or legal studies at school or embarking on a law or history degree, tell them to get onto it!

<http://www.forbessociety.org.au/>

Image: Francis Forbes, by Charles Rodius (SLNSW a1528031/DG272)



Recognition from the history profession

The Dictionary of Sydney was reviewed in the latest edition of *History Australia*, journal of the Australian Historical Association, and received a very positive and thoughtful assessment from Professor Alan Mayne of the University of South Australia.

Among other things, he said 'This dictionary reformulates the scope of academic history to engage with and extend community knowledge about the past'.

We will be enquiring about permission to reproduce the article on the Dictionary of Sydney blog.

You can find the review here and download it as a PDF file:

<http://journals.publishing.monash.edu/ojs/index.php/ha/rt/suppFiles/732/0>



Hold the front page!

The Dictionary team is working diligently on a redesign of the Dictionary's public face, offering access to all of the Dictionary's projects, products and pages in a user-friendly way. We hope it will be a more welcoming and information-rich introduction to the all the work the Dictionary is doing.

The new-look Dictionary home page should go live before the end of this year, so don't be alarmed if you visit and find the furniture re-arranged. Everything you can currently find there, and more, will still be available, just a little more inviting.

We've kept up the content work in the background though, and the upload of material in December



promises to be our biggest yet. So stay tuned for a lot of summer reading!

You can keep up with this and other developments, at our blog, *Looking up*, which is updated every week. And don't forget to like us on Facebook too!

<http://dictionaryofsydney.wordpress.com/>

New Board member joins the Trust

The Board of Trustees welcomes Mark St Leon to the Board, after his election in August.

Mark is an expert in financial management, especially for arts organisations, with a long history in arts administration and management, as well as a career as a lecturer and consultant in management and accounting.

He's also an author for the Dictionary, having written our entry on [Circus](#). His book, *Circus: The Australian Story*, was published by Melbourne Books in May 2011.



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