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PUBLICATIONS

LYDHAM HALL



ST GEORGE HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER | JAN - FEB 2025

## WELCOME



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all our members and friends.

We've had a fantastic year and there are many plan afoot for events and activities throughout the year starting with our fantastic **Opera at the House High Tea** in February. All profits for all our events at Lydham Hall go straight back into maintaining this amazing community museum so we hope that you will help support us by joining in with as many events as possible and encouraging friends and family too.

Over the last few months, the Executive and General Committee have been working on a calendar of events for the 2025 calendar year. In the next few months we will have Opera, Music, talks on chocolate and fashion plus new exhibitions. So much happening so stay tuned.

We would like to warmly welcome our new members - Suzanne Chate (Glenfield), Jonah Deller (Kogarah), Sue Hijazi (Bexley), Rita Ma (Kogarah), Sandra Leonards (Hurstville), John Walz (Guildford), Claire Wong & Callum Sinclair (Surry Hills). We encourage all our new members join us at our monthly meeting and talks in 2025. These talks are free and you are welcome to bring friends and family along. As a member you also receive unlimited free entry to Lydham Hall and we encourage you to become involved as a volunteer. If you haven't made it to a talk or the museum as yet, please come along. For those new members who have volunteered to help at Lydham Hall, a special thank you. Membership is the key to keeping organisations such as ours alive and we are very grateful to all our members for their support.

*Your Editorial Team*

*(image above shows the dining table at Lydham Hall decorated for a Victorian Christmas feast)*

## WHAT'S ON

[LINK TO WEBSITE](#)

**Sunday 2nd February 2025** | 10am to 4pm | 18 Lydham Avenue Rockdale

### **LYDHAM HALL OPEN DAY: Opera at the House**

We start 2025 with a fabulous event - a Victorian High Tea Experience with Opera. This event is a booked event - don't miss out!

It's also a great Christmas Gift idea. For \$35, the recipient will get a voucher that offers free entry to the museum, high tea on the verandah and a performance by the talented Yasmin Arkininstall.

Book via the website at [www.stgeorgehistsoc.org.au](http://www.stgeorgehistsoc.org.au) or contact us via email to arrange as a gift. Email [stgeorgehistorical@gmail.com](mailto:stgeorgehistorical@gmail.com)

# Opera at the House

## LYDHAM HALL HISTORIC HOUSE

Enjoy a Luxurious Victorian inspired High Tea Experience overlooking the gardens whilst listening to an enchanting performance by the talented Mezzo Soprano Yasmin Arkininstall.



### SUNDAY FEBRUARY 2<sup>ND</sup> 2025

Immerse yourself in the harmonious blend of music and history while surrounded by the beautiful gardens of Lydham Hall Historic House Museum. This captivating performance is not to be missed. The High Tea includes a delectable selection of sweet and savoury delights, paired with fine tea. For just \$35 per person, this is the perfect way to indulge your senses and savour the moment.

Price includes museum entry, an exclusive high tea and an operatic performance at 11.30am.

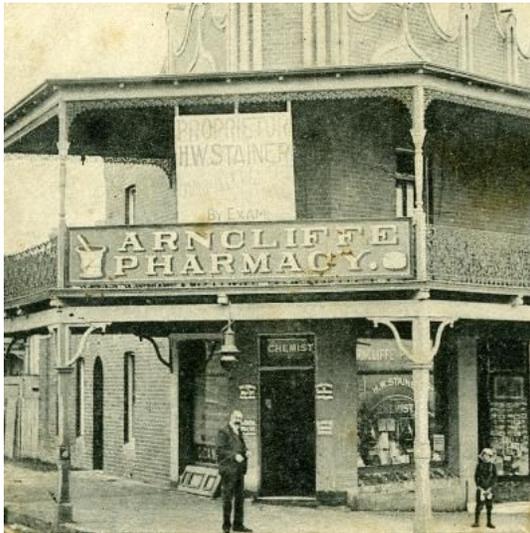


TO BOOK  
YOUR PLACE VISIT  
[www.stgeorgehistsoc.org](http://www.stgeorgehistsoc.org)

SUNDAY  
FEBRUARY 2<sup>ND</sup> 2025  
\$35 PER PERSON

LYDHAM HALL HISTORIC HOUSE MUSEUM  
18 LYDHAM AVE ROCKDALE

*All proceeds are used in the preservation and maintenance of the museum*



**Saturday 15 February 2025** | 2pm until 4pm | 3rd Floor Rockdale Library | 444 Princes Highway Rockdale

**LOCAL HISTORY TALK: From Arncliffe to Bexley: A Historical Journey**

Hardworking and committed members, Bob and Laurel Horton, present a talk on hidden treasures from the past - its grand houses and public buildings. Entry is free but donations gratefully accepted. Refreshments (tea, coffee, snacks) provided. Bring a friend!



**Sunday 2 March 2025** | 10am to 4pm | 18 Lydham Avenue Rockdale

**LYDHAM HALL OPEN DAY: With the St George Sutherland Scottish Pipe Band**

Since 1946, the St George-Sutherland Scottish Pipe Band has played for marches, dances, tattoos and general entertainment. Enjoy Devonshire Tea on the Verandah whilst the band play. See our website for session details. Entry is free for members and we encourage all members to bring along friends & family.



**Saturday 15 March 2025** | 2pm until 4pm | 3rd Floor Rockdale Library | 444 Princes Highway Rockdale

**LOCAL HISTORY TALK: Sydney's first significant pleasure resort**

Dr Mark St Leon presents a talk on the Sir Joseph Banks Hotel and the development and demise of Beaumont & Waller's Zoological and Botanical Gardens. Entry is free but donations gratefully accepted. Refreshments (tea, coffee, snacks) provided. Bring a friend!

BECOME A MEMBER

MORE WHAT'S ON HERE

## IT'S NOT TOO LATE!

We have the best last minute Christmas Gifts



### Opera and High Tea Experience

For \$35, your recipient can enjoy this wonderful event. The price includes entry to the museum, a Victorian styled **High Tea** packed full of sweet and savoury delights whilst being entertained by the talented Mezzo Soprano, Yasmin Arkinstall.



### Membership Package

For \$15, your recipient will receive a membership certificate for one year plus a complimentary **Devonshire Tea for Two** at the wonderful Lydham Hall. Proceeds from your gift go directly towards supporting our wonderful museum.

Contact us now to arrange your gift

## 2024 CHRISTMAS PARTY



On Saturday 16th of November, the Society held it's annual Christmas get together at Lydham Hall. We had over 40 members at the event and everyone enjoyed the great weather, terrific food and wonderful company.

We'd like to thank all those who made this day extra memorable for our members by volunteering to organise, set up and bake!

As well as much eating, two special events took place on the day. The first event was the drawing of the raffle for the beautiful painting donated to the Society by local artist, Pamela Griffith. The winner was local resident and member, Nick. This is the second raffle that Nick has won in the last 6 month - how lucky is he?

The second event was the presentation of a Life Membership certificate to Geoff and Joan Rankin. Geoff and Joan have been dedicated members and volunteers of the Society for many decades. Their continuous care, attention to and knowledge of Lydham Hall has been very much appreciated by those who are caring for the museum presently. Thank you and congratulations.

Some photos of the day below:



*Above Left: Members enjoying the delicious food whilst soaking in the beautiful weather.*



*Above Right: Shortbread and slices made by Laurel.*



*Above Left: President, Wesley Fairhall, writing his Christmas welcome speech.*



*Above Right: The extremely lucky Nick who won the raffle prize on the day.*



*Above Left: More delicious homebaking - Christmas Cake lovingly made by Garry. We also had a delicious Christmas Pudding made by Reg. Above Right: Volunteer Curator, Tina.*



*Above Left: One of our amazing volunteers, Margaret.*

*Above Right: Members Janette and Joe deep in conversation.*



*Above Left: Another fabulous volunteer - Garry, chef extraordinaire.*

*Above Right: Members Michael, Bob, Susie and Sandra. All volunteers at Lydham Hall Museum.*

## OUT AND ABOUT



In 2025 the Society will focus on the community. There are so many wonderful arts, heritage and cultural groups in the local government area and we would love to see more collaboration. We will do our best to bring you information and events that showcase our local community. If you are involved in a group, tell them to get in touch!

*Left: Wesley (President) & Tina (Volunteer Curator) attended the Bayside Council Community Get Together in December.*

## DECEMBER RAFFLE WINNERS

We had 4 fundraising raffles drawn in December. Raffle funds go towards the conservation and restoration of objects in our collection. We appreciate everyone who buys a ticket and a thank you to all of members who donate the prizes.

*Clockwise from top left:* Local **Nick** from Bexley won the beautiful painting by Pamela Griffith. **Emily** (husband accepting the prize) from Rockdale won the Christmas chocolates. **Edwin** from Orange won the tea set and tea package. And yes we did deliver it to Orange! Finally, **Lynne** from Engadine who won a hamper of olive oils, caramelised balsamic vinegar, and an array delectable drizzles, jams, and gourmet condiments from award-winning Riverina producer, Morella Grove.

Congratulations to all of our lucky winners!



MORELLA GROVE

PAMELA GRIFFITH

## CORPORATE MEMBERSHIP

Do you have a local business? We invite you to join us. Align your brand with the St George Historical Society and connect with a network of residents who share a passion for St George's history. Visit our Corporate membership page to discover the benefits and apply.



Welcome to our latest corporate member, Cascat Consulting. Established in 1996, Cascat Consulting provides a range of services from corporate catering and functions to fully presented events, industry consultancy and professional development opportunities for both students and catering and events practitioners.

CasCat has worked with clients to present memorable meals for exclusive private functions, cater large functions and develop menus for community organisations that are nutritious and economic.

CAS CAT CONSULTING

CORPORATE MEMBERSHIP

## ST GEORGE HISTORICAL SOCIETY COMMITTEE

The St George Historical Society is led by a Committee, which is chaired by the President. The role of the Committee is to manage the Society's business as per the Constitution.

Nominations for all Committee positions were called prior to the Annual General Meeting and elected at the meeting in July 2024. The Executive and General Committee meets on the 2nd Tuesday night of every month.

### **The Executive Committee:**

President - Wesley Fairhall  
Vice President - Laurel Horton  
Secretary - Laurice Bondfield  
Treasurer - Barry Johnson  
Public Officer - Robert McGarn  
Curator/Librarian - Tina Workman  
Research Officer - Barry Johnson  
Publicity Officer - Anne Field  
Newsletter Editor - Tina Workman

### **The General Committee:**

Michael Drew, Bob Jansen, Brendan Giles, Diana Smith, Garry Stokes

### **The Lydham Hall Advisory Committee:**

Laurice Bondfield, Wesley Fairhall, Tina Workman with Anne Field as supplementary. This Committee meets with Council staff and Councillors every 3 months.

## COULD YOU BE OUR NEXT GUEST SPEAKER?

Have you researched your family history or entered the Ron Rathbone Local History Competition? If you enjoy sharing stories from our past and raising awareness about the local history of the St George District, you can present to a local community group. You'll choose the topic. It could be genealogy, railways, churches, or Victorian-era homes in your suburb.

Reply to this newsletter to join our [Guest Speaker program](#). We'll help prepare your talk and support you with all the details.

## DONATIONS TO MUSEUMS - A WORTHWHILE GIFT

Do you have anything at home (or in the garage!) that belongs in a museum?

We are currently searching for every day objects for our kitchen. These are the things that might be hiding in back of cupboards, sheds and garages because they are worth so little to you but tell great stories when placed in a museum. Jars, tins, potions, medicines, soaps, flour sacks etc.

If you have something with a history that you would like to donate, please get in touch.



**St George Historical Society Incorporated**

PO Box A89 Arncliffe NSW 2205

[www.stgeorgehistsoc.org.au](http://www.stgeorgehistsoc.org.au)

*One of the benefits of becoming a member of the St George Historical Society is receiving information about the Society & the local area. If you do not want to receive this newsletter, please unsubscribe below.*

*Note that once you unsubscribe, we will be unable to add you to our mailing list for newsletters in future.*

[I want to unsubscribe](#)

