

Lane Cove Historical Society Inc.  
**NOTICEBOARD**

NOV 2017

**CHEESE, WINE AND JAZZ**  
**Carisbrook Historic House**



**DELTA JAZZ BAND**

**Sunday 12 November \* 4.30pm-6.30pm**



Bookings - <https://www.trybooking.com/315320>, or  
[carisbrookhouse@hotmail.com](mailto:carisbrookhouse@hotmail.com)  
Enquiries 0418 276 365, [www.carisbrookhouse.com](http://www.carisbrookhouse.com)

**THIS SUNDAY** bring some friends or treat yourself to an enjoyable afternoon with nothing else to do but sit back and relax!

## ORAL HISTORY OF LOCAL IDENTITY WINS LCHS HISTORY PRIZE

*Published in The Village Observer No. 268 November 2017*



The Lane Cove Historical Society held its award night for the LCHS Lane Cove History Prize at the end of October. The new Mayor of Lane Cove, Clr. Pam Palmer, opened the evening with the Hon. Anthony Roberts MP, announcing the winner of this year's prize and presenting the \$2,000 winner's cheque. The ceremony was well attended by LCHS members and residents and was supported by Clrs. Deborah Hutchens and Scott Bennison.

The 2017 prize-money has been generously donated by the Hycorp Property Group who announced that they are pleased to continue their sponsorship of the LCHS Lane Cove History Prize for its third year in 2018.

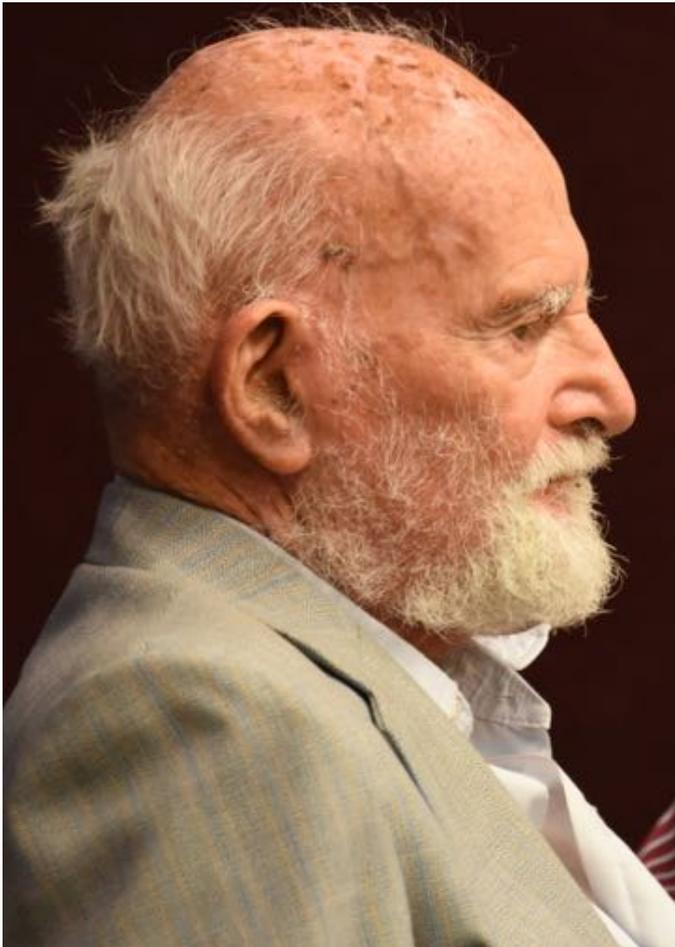
This competition is unusual, in that it is one of only two local history prizes in the country (the other one is offered by the St. George Historical Society in Rockdale, NSW). Many towns and

municipalities have art and literary prizes, but Lane Cove residents can be proud of the fact that we have instituted a special prize for local history. The principal criterion for awarding the prize is that the winning entry must 'contribute to an enriched understanding of Lane Cove, both past and present'.

The winner of this year's prize has been awarded to Simon Cole for his oral history celebrating the life of an important Lane Cove identity, Les Heap. At 96, Les, who wrote a thirty year history of the Lane Cove Bowling and Recreation Club, still plays bowls and was present on the night to see Simon receive his prize. Simon Cole presents a subtle vision of Australian life. He takes us through the years of want during the Depression, war work in Sydney in the early 40s and the hopes of postwar couples settling into Lane Cove.

During WWII Les worked as a machinist for Poole and Steel, making Corvettes for the Navy. He recounts an unusual occurrence:

*"We're out three mile off Bondi and we were testing the depth chargers with drums of sand, throwing those overboard to get the range. And they said, "Stop, stop." And so, we stopped. "Put the real ones on; there's a small propeller underneath us." So, we put the real ones on. For the next hour we [towelled up] the fish, and white spouts of water came up out of the sea. .... no debris came to the surface or anything, so we thought we'd missed the sub or whatever it was. But when I got on the internet a few years back it said that M24, the Jap sub, had left Sydney Harbour at quarter past two in the morning and hadn't been seen since. And I said, "I know why it hadn't been heard of since; we must have hit it because its hull is now off Mona Vale on the bottom" — And, so, that was my contribution to the war."*



The subject of this year's winning submission was Lane Cove identity, Les Heap

The entrants this year applied varying research methods to cover a diverse range of topics. Written essays include a study of orchards on the Lane Cove River and their environmental legacy; the history of three businesswomen who tackled a man's world in the late 1960s, early 70s. Another work looks at Oscar-winning actor, Peter Finch, and the lifelong psychological consequences of his childhood and teenage years living in Greenwich. Another entry was a video history of the Lane Cove Plaza and surrounds.

A Special Edition of the *LCHS Journal* containing this year's entries will be available in the New Year. LCHS members will receive a copy by post and copies will be available for sale at Carisbrook Historic House. Publication costs will be covered by a donation from Terry Eakin, Caretaker of Carisbrook Historic House and a copy will be archived at the Local Studies Unit of the Lane Cove Library.

Submission details for the 2018 LCHS Lane Cove History Prize may be downloaded on the Carisbrook website:

[www.carisbrookhouse.com](http://www.carisbrookhouse.com) and click on 'Society'.

Once again, LCHS Committee member, Emeritus Professor Dr Frances Christie will supervise both history prize programmes. For enquiries email

[carisbrookhouse@hotmail.com](mailto:carisbrookhouse@hotmail.com)

or phone 9420 4010.



# ARCHAEOLOGY AT CARISBROOK AND SURROUNDS

## Students Report on their projects in the Terrace Room at the LC Community Hub

Last Thursday (November 2) post-graduate students of Museum and Heritage Studies at the University of Sydney reported on their recent archaeological projects carried out at Carisbrook and its surrounding land. The studies forms part of their Masters degrees and comprised an archaeology component supervised by Dr. James Flexner of the Department of Archaeology.

The projects covered:

i) an assessment of maps of Linley Point over the past two hundred years with the hope of locating the original timber cottage lived in by Thomas and Rachael Brooks

ii) a site assessment of RMS land directly in front of Carisbrook where there are remains of earlier buildings

iii) a digital project that will explain the original uses of a room off the present dining room at Carisbrook

iv) a downloadable audio tour of the gardens of Carisbrook.

It was a pleasure to have these students working at Carisbrook and the LCHS is proud to have been able to work with the university to further this academic/educational process utilising the historic site. We will certainly benefit from their findings which add interesting and valuable research to the story of Carisbrook House and its land.

They are now in the process of producing their reports and projects and their findings will be published in the New Year in the *LCHS Journal*.

