

His Royal Highness the Duke of Cornwall & York

The degree of Doctor of Laws* was conferred ad eundem gradum upon His Royal Highness the Duke of Cornwall & York by the Chancellor Sir Henry Normand MacLaurin at the Annual University of Sydney Commemoration held in the Great Hall on 31 May 1901.

Their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of Cornwall and York (later King George V and Queen Mary) were visiting Australia as part of an eight-month royal tour of the British Empire in 1901. The Duke's main task in Australia was to inaugurate the first Australian Federal Parliament in Melbourne.

** As there was no provision in the University Act until 1952 for conferring of honorary degrees by the University of Sydney, the University awarded a number of degrees 'ad eundem gradum' - mostly Doctor of Laws - as a mark of special honour. Those who received this award included members of the Royal Family, Governors-General, distinguished soldiers and leaders of industry.*



The Duke and Duchess of Cornwall and York, *photo, courtesy of the white gum valley primary school history website.*