

## Associate Professor Ian Jack

An honorary fellowship of the University was conferred upon Ian Jack by the Chair Academic Board, Associate Professor Anthony Masters at a Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences graduation at 11.30am on 13 May 2016.

### Citation

Associate Professor Masters, it gives me great pleasure to present Associate Professor Ian Jack to you for the award of an Honorary Fellowship of the University of Sydney.

Ian Jack joined the University of Sydney in 1961 as a lecturer in the History department. He became a senior lecturer in 1965, and was appointed associate professor in 1970. He served two consecutive terms as Dean of the Faculty of Arts, from 1974–77, and was Head of the department of History from 1979-1982, and from 1992-1995. After retiring, he became an honorary research associate in 2002.

He is the longest-serving President of the Royal Australian Historical Society, having served in that role from 2003 until 2010 and was elected a Fellow in 2004. He has published extensively in the areas of heritage, local history and historical archaeology.

He was a co-founder of the discipline of Historical Archaeology in the University of Sydney in 1974, and one of the first practitioners of industrial archaeology in Australia. In his position as Dean of the faculty of Arts, Ian played a further key role in the development of the field by facilitating the introduction of the first undergraduate subject in the area.

He has been vitally involved in the sensitive area of heritage, has been a member of the Heritage Council of NSW, and continues to the present day his twenty year association with this peak body in the Australian heritage landscape.

He has written extensively on matters of historical interest across the world, from Mediaeval Wales to the Hawkesbury and Nepean Valley, and many points between, but perhaps it is the corner of the Grose Farm estate known as St Andrew's College which has held his interest and his affection for the longest time, and for that, the College will be ever grateful.

Within St Andrew's, Ian is the Senior Fellow, having held that position since 1998. In this role, he has guided the Senior Common Room community as its President, coordinating an admirably diverse annual program of "life of the mind" activities. Ian is the College Archivist and Librarian and in addition to managing the College's rare and general reference book collection, he has consolidated a valuable archive which chronicles the College's 150 year history. He has written two editions of the history of Australia's third oldest university college.

He moved into residence in St Andrew's upon appointment as the Wilson Fellow in 1979, was Senior Tutor from 1982 until 1988, became the Hunter Baillie Fellow in Oriental and Polynesian Languages in 1988, and held the Woodhouse Fellowship from 1992 until 1998. In discharging all of these Fellowship responsibilities, Ian has maintained a deep commitment as a mentor, adding enormous value to the academic and intellectual journeys of thousands of college students, across all faculties and disciplines.

As a member of many College Council committees over thirty years his academic analysis and standards are valued and respected, and his thoughtful, meticulous, fair and rigorous argument was persuasive in the occasionally difficult Council context, and particularly in the seismic debates around the admission of women into St Andrew's and the departure of Principal Rev Dr Peter Cameron. He continues to be a remarkable supporter of music in College. The high esteem in which the performing arts are now held in College is due in large part to Ian's durable and seemingly endless enthusiasm for making music, but also for an encouragement towards excellence and fulfilment of potential.

Ian has maintained a conspicuous continued involvement in support of the interests and welfare of the University of Sydney since 1961, and for over thirty-five years the activities of that part of the University known as St Andrew's College. Through his ongoing and lengthy engagement with the Royal Australian Historical Society, Heritage Council and other bodies in the field of historical enquiry he has promoted the academic purposes of the University and fostered the links between the University and other Australian institutions.

Associate Professor Masters, I present Associate Professor Ian Jack and invite you to confer the title of Honorary Fellow of the University upon him.