

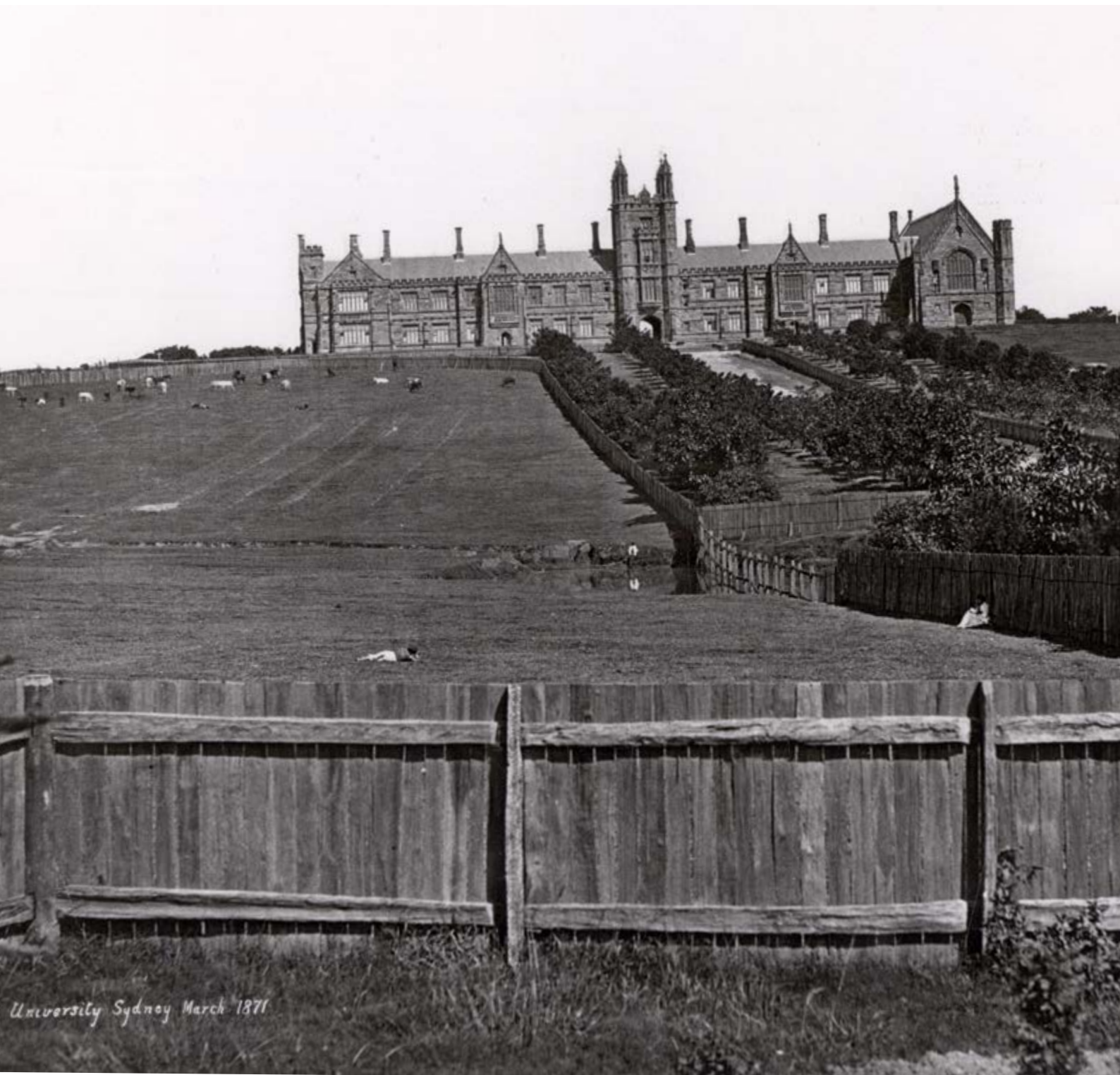
RECORD

THE UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES

2021



THE UNIVERSITY OF
SYDNEY



University Sydney March 1871

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The great quadrangle race, featuring Greg Haddrick, Scott Brandon-Smith and Rob Mackay, 1983 [G77_1_0542]

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Archivist's notes

In another year of global tumult, it has been a big year at the University Archives. While our Search Room has been quiet, our email inboxes have been full, with enquiries, collaborations, projects and stories.

In this 2021 issue of *Record* we bring you some of the stories uncovered in the Archives this year.

We have been lucky to have two wonderful Master of Museum and Heritage Studies students complete their practical placements with us this year, Madeline Roche and Eleanor MacInnes. Madeline and Eleanor undertook research projects that investigated key records in our WWII collection, the photograph album of the Sydney University Women's Land Army and the Law School Comfort Fund.

These incredible records tell stories about the impact of war on a wide range of University students and Madeline and Eleanor's work has helped to identify more about the lives of the students described in these records. In their articles, Madeline and Eleanor explore some of the key people in the Women's Land Army and involved in the Comfort Fund, while their broader research projects have added to the University's understanding of the thousands of its staff and students who served in multiple capacities in WWII.

In this issue, our excellent colleague and former University Archivist, Tim Robinson, starts telling the story of Murray Gosper. Gosper was a student in the 1920s and 1930s who, amongst a cavalcade of other achievements, created Honi Soit and the Student's Representative Council. It's been joyous hearing Tim's stories of the unfurling of his research into Gosper, as Tim discovered more and more information about the breadth of Gosper's accomplishments. Originally developed as an article for the Australian Dictionary of Biography, *Record* is the lucky beneficiary of all the incredible detail and stories that

can't be incorporated within the ADB's tight 800-word limit! Part 1 of the Gosper story is in this issue, part 2 and possibly also part 3 are still to come.

We are grateful to long time researcher and friend of the Archives, John Carmody, who has allowed us to publish an extract of his research on academics and eugenics in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. John's article is an important reminder of the ongoing need for vigilance, the need to question research practice and to understand its long-term implications, and to continuously acknowledge and learn from the past.

The other key article in this issue outlines the major project that we're currently undertaking in the Archives, to understand what our users want from the University Archives, and to transform how we deliver access to our archives. This is an absolute mammoth project, that will ultimately touch and transform every single one of our Archives' thousands and thousands of records. I would like to acknowledge the work of our incredible project staff, and we will be excited to show you more of the transformational outcomes of this project throughout 2022.

In closing, I would like to thank the fabulous Nyree Morrison who has produced this beautiful edition of *Record*, in addition to everything else she contributes and coordinates for the Archives. Thank you Nyree! And thanks too to the rest of the wonderful team who has kept the Archives thriving in another challenging year – Nyree, Karin, Jason and Liz. And thank you to our researchers who keep us inspired, invigorated and excited about the limitless potential of the stories in the University Archives.

Kate Cumming
University Archivist

Museum Studies in the Archives

This year the University Archives were host to two Master of Museum and Heritage Studies students who undertook a 4-week internship. They were both working with archival records relating to WWII. Here they write about what have they have uncovered while working with the archives.

Uncovering the Sydney University Women's Land Army

Madeline Roche

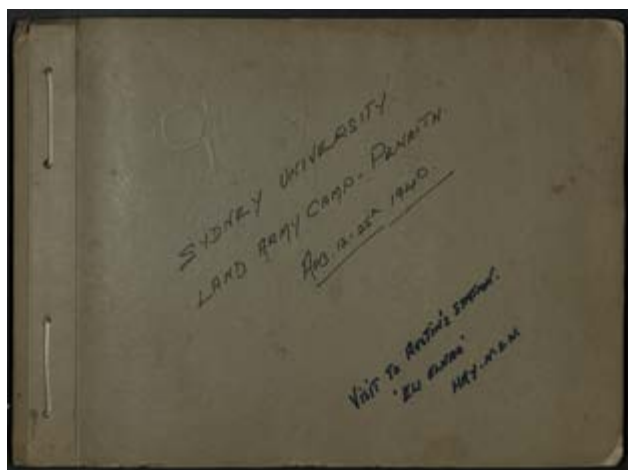
The University of Sydney Archives holds a very special item; a photograph album donated by Isobel Bennett AO.¹ This priceless album holds 102 photographs, many of which show the Sydney University Women's Land Army (SUWLA) in action.

During my internship, I went from knowing nothing about the SUWLA to becoming fully immersed in its world. As I spent countless hours poring over the album, the women pictured seemed to become as familiar to me as my own friends. There was Isobel ploughing the fields, and Marise and June riding on a tractor, and the whole gang coming together for a quick photo, happy faces all smiling for the camera.

The SUWLA was initially led by Isobel and Helen Turner AO OBE; two strong women who stood up to those

who believed women were not capable of the labour required for farm work. These women both went on to lead remarkable lives. Helen worked as a geneticist and statistician and became a world expert in sheep genetics, and Isobel became known as "one of Australia's most distinguished marine biologists".²

As I knew little about the history of land armies in general, my first task became establishing my basic knowledge and context of the history of land armies in Australia. I quickly discovered that the Australian Women's Land Army (AWLA) was the organisation which had supported the backbone of Australia during the war by, "[combatting the] rising labour shortages in the farming sector".³ I learned more about the role of the AWLA through the helpful documentary *Thanks Girls and Goodbye*, which explored



Cover of the photograph album [1117_107361_001]



"The Gang" [1117_107361_006]

the history of the Land Army and included interviews with the participants, and photos and video footage of the organisation in action. Some of the photos and footage likely portray the SUWLA in action although I was unable to definitively prove this. Once I began looking specifically into the SUWLA, I was shocked and disappointed to discover the lack of information and records surrounding it. As I sorted through the few relevant archive sources, it became clear to me that I was about to embark on an enormous journey to piece back together the story of the women of the SUWLA.

It is important to note that the SUWLA did not appear to have an official name. Throughout its mentions, the organisation was referred to as either the SUWLA, the University Women's Land Army (UWLA), the University Land Section (ULS), or simply the Sydney University Land Army (SULA). The Sydney University Women's Land Army appears to be the most fitting name for the organisation and therefore, that shall be the one used throughout this article.



Isobel Bennett, left and Helen Turner, right
[1117_107361_003]



"Our camp. Nepean Rowing Club Shed" [1117_107361_005]

In July 1940, the SUWLA was officially formed by the Sydney University Women's War Auxiliary (SUWWA).⁴ The SUWWA itself had only been created in June 1940 as a response to World War II, and aimed, "to get every woman student doing some war work at the University [...]".⁵ The Land Army was one of the many sections which fell under the SUWWA; the other sections included knitting, netting, surgical dressings, and Voluntary Aid Detachment.⁶ In August 1940, the Women's Australian National Services (WANS) took the SUWWA, and therefore the land army section, under its wing as a university unit; at this time the national AWLA had not yet been formed.⁷

From the 12th to the 25th of August 1940, the SUWLA held one of its first training camps where its members were able to, "[receive] training in dairy, piggery, poultry, vegetable growing and orchard work [...]", and work on a variety of local farms.⁸ This camp was held in Penrith at the Nepean Rowing Club boatshed and included around 45 to 60 Sydney University female students.⁹

This initial camp was seen as an experiment to test the concept of a land army while it was still not yet desperately needed and to give, "some idea of the work which the women of this country may be called upon to do in the future".¹⁰ By 1941, a permanent camp for the SUWLA was established in Penrith on Farmer Graham Shirley's land 'Camelot', and other camps were being held in towns like Orange and Forbes.¹¹



"Goat milking competition" [1117_107361_031]

During one of the Penrith camps, the SUWLA held a Field Day at 'Camelot' where the women were able to, "compete in sheaf-tossing, corn-cutting, pig-catching, cattle-judging, and ploughing", and show-off what they had learned.¹²

After a successful visit to the permanent SUWLA camp, the Minister for Education, Clive Evatt, formed an advisory committee to oversee the creation of a Women's Land Army in New South Wales.¹³ Without the SUWLA's positive

LAND ARMY WORKERS NEEDED

Appeal to Arts Women

The University Women's Land Army is making a special appeal to Arts women to assist with harvesting after Christmas. It is impossible for the growers to get any labour from the usual sources. This is a war job that must be done, and you may be in a position to help. The work is paid and experience is not essential.

If you are willing and able to help, send your name, address and times when you are available to June Bartlett, Manning House.

The Union Recorder, 22 October 1942, p212



"On Mr Bert Hollins' Farm, Castlereagh, HNT" [1117_107361_017]



"Field Day at 'Camelot'" [1117_107361_025]



'Plowing competition - our horse Cluckie"
[1117_107361_028]

influence, perhaps it would have taken longer for the AWLA to be formed. By the end of 1944, there were no more mentions of the SUWLA's activities in the minutes from the SUWWA meetings. The following year brought the end of World War II and the consequent disbanding of the SUWWA. Their minute book was sent to the University Archives for safekeeping so that future generations would know the work that was done during the war by the women of the University of Sydney.

I am grateful that through this internship I was able to contribute to uncovering the story of the Sydney University Women's Land Army. I was able to compile a list of names of the women who participated in the SUWLA so that at least now there exists a partial record of those members. I uncovered the participants, not only those of the SUWLA, but also those of the SUWWA who had contributed to the other war efforts. I researched these women, and for most I was able to find biographical information and details of their life achievements. This information transformed them from names on a page into vibrant breathing people each with their own story to tell. To fully recognise these women and their stories, their names and biographical details will be added to the *Beyond 1939* project currently underway by the University.

Please contact the Archives if you would like to know more, or if you know anything which could be added to the story.



"Corn cutting competition" [1117_107361_047]



"Cattle judging. Field Day Camelot" [1117_107361_051]



"Marise Cohen & June Bartlett" [1117_107361_014]

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Lieutenant Ian Grey, RANVR and the Law School Comforts Fund

Shortly after graduating from the Law School with an LLB in 1941, Ian Grey enlisted in the Royal Australian Naval Volunteer Reserves (RANVR) and sailed to England for training. As a member of the Sydney legal community on active service in the Second World War, Grey was eligible to receive regular parcels from the Law School Comforts Fund, a Fund established a year prior by some of the University's earliest female Law School graduates.

Eleanor MacInnes

Ian Grey was born on the 5th May 1918 in Wellington, New Zealand and moved to Australia with his family as a young boy. In 1936, he commenced his studies at the Sydney University Law School, graduating Bachelor of Laws (LLB) in 1941 before swiftly enlisting in the RANVR as an Ordinary Seaman.¹

Throughout the Second World War, Grey was one of over 600 servicemen from the Sydney legal community who received monthly packages of books, newsletters, and textbooks from the Law School Comforts Fund.² Founded in 1940, the Law School Comforts Fund aimed to keep men of the legal profession fighting in the war connected to each other and the University.³

Where books and textbooks provided comfort, entertainment, and even the possibility to continue studying from afar, a quarterly publication titled the *Legal Digest* facilitated a sense of community through gossipy updates of the men on the Comforts Fund roll serving around the world. To keep the *Legal Digest* with as much up-to-date news as possible, and to show their gratitude for the regular parcels, many servicemen maintained regular correspondence with Margaret Dalrymple-Hay, the secretary of the Comforts Fund, throughout the duration of the war.

It was in a letter to Miss Hay, later published in the *Legal Digest*, that Ian Grey confessed he had secretly

spent his time in property lectures, taught by Sir John Peden, learning Russian.⁴ Whilst this distraction meant Grey ultimately failed Sir John's class, his fluency in the Russian language provided him with many exciting opportunities in the RANVR.

After completing his training in England, Grey was sent to Moscow and commissioned as a liaison officer afloat. Working primarily on a Soviet destroyer force, he served in the Atlantic and Arctic waters in North Russian convoys.⁵ In late 1943, after nearly two years in the Baltic, Grey boarded a Soviet destroyer heading to London. While on leave, Grey's work in Russia drew significant interest and he conducted several interviews with British newspapers.⁶

After returning to Moscow, Grey worked in the Admiralty as a naval intelligence officer, where he was posted to the Embassy and attended several high-level meetings, naval conferences, and receptions as an interpreter.⁷ One such reception was described by Grey in a letter sent to Miss Hay in May 1944. The letter detailed a Reception hosted by Molotov, the First Deputy Premier of the Soviet Union. Grey attended the Reception to act as a translator between the British Admiral and high-ranking Russian officials, who he noted as including all "the real leaders aside from Stalin himself".⁸ In his letter, Grey detailed the grandeur of the Molotov residence, with opulent ballrooms and dining halls, and described the night as

being full of music, dancing and drinking. He wrote, "I concentrated on trying most of the Russian wines there. Perhaps that was just as well for all the vodka disappeared in a flash".⁹

In December 1944, Grey returned to Australia for a month's leave, stopping in at the Law School Comforts Fund, looking, according to the *Legal Digest*, "bronzed and keen, but just the same as when four years ago he had pegged out a constant claim to a corner of the Library".¹⁰

In many letters held at the Archives, servicemen expressed great appreciation to the Comforts Fund. In a letter to Miss Hay in September 1944, Grey wrote, *But a word about the Law School Comforts Fund. It has been a grand work and I feel that more than to anyone else the thanks are due to you. All the time I have been away, and particularly during the long months in the Arctic when the night was so unbearably long and the cold so bitter, I received regularly your books, parcels and news sheets.*¹¹

In August 1945, Grey left the navy with the rank of Lieutenant to work on the Allied Commission of Control in Austria.¹² He and his wife eventually settled in London, where he worked at the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA) as the Editor of Publications, and then as the Deputy Secretary-General.¹³ While working at the CPA, Grey wrote a total of thirteen books on Russian history.¹⁴ In June 1996, Grey died in London at age 78.¹⁵

Ack

Lieut. Ian Grey R.A.N.V.R.
 60 Bank of N. S.W.
 47 Berkeley Square,
 London. W1.
 12th May, 1944.

Dear Miss Hay,

It was very kind of you to write & give me the latest news. I received your Airgraph in the house mail and it reminded me, too, that I have not written to you in some time —.

Incidentally this spot of publicity about my months in the North has been well-received & little. Journalists are an unreliable crowd, & only hope everything they have said through naval channels. One article was printed in a London paper, & as a result I was kept over the knuckles severely in Admiralty!!

Letter from Ian Grey to Miss Hay, 12 May 1944 [S109/1]

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A New User-Centric University Archives System

The Archives staff are developing a new archives control system and community engagement platform for launch in 2022. This major project will migrate several existing control and access systems to the New Zealand-based content management system, Recollect. We conducted a survey in November 2020 seeking feedback from current and potential users about what the Archives does satisfactorily now and what can be improved using a new platform to best support learning, teaching and research within and beyond the University.

The Archives currently utilises a suite of six distinct systems to manage and provide access to its collections:

- [Control and Handling of Archive Operating Systems \(CHAOS\)](#), the archival control system, is the primary source of metadata, which feeds the Archives' access platforms. CHAOS does not contain any digital records.
- [Archives Online](#) is linked to CHAOS and is the online 'catalogue' for users of the Archives. Archives Online does not feature any digital records.
- [Mediabank](#) is a photographic database and enables users to search for and view photographs from select series alongside associated metadata.
- [The University of Sydney Calendar Archive](#) ('Calendar Archive') is the online repository for the University Calendars, dating from 1852 to 2008. PDF and Word versions of the Calendars can be viewed, searched for, and downloaded by users. The Calendar Archive is hosted on an older version of the University website.
- [Alumni Sidneiensis](#), based on the *Alumni Cantabrigienses* of the University of Cambridge, is a searchable register of graduates of the University from 1857 to 1985. This list does not contain the names of graduates from the amalgamated institutions.
- The [Archives website](#) provides contextual information about the Archives and contains links to Archives

Online, Mediabank, the Calendar Archive and Alumni Sidneiensis. The website also features PDF copies of finding aids for select personal papers and series. The website cannot be updated by Archives staff who must rely on the University's Marketing and Communications team to facilitate any required content changes.

Archives staff decided in 2020 to consolidate and update the above set of systems into a single, integrated platform.

The impetus for this significant decision was based on three key reasons – the first relates to Archives staff, the second concerns users of the Archives, and the third was University driven. The maintenance of six systems is a cumbersome and inefficient process for Archives staff, who also, problematically, do not have access and control over the back end of most of these systems. The fractured nature of the systems – one system for photographs, one for a list of graduates, one for metadata only – combined with the lack of adequate online access to digital records, translates into a frustrating experience for users searching for information and records. The ongoing Covid-19 pandemic, which has resulted in lockdowns and closures for Archives staff and users, particularly highlighted the crucial need for the Archives to be able to provide online access to metadata and digital records. The third, most pressing factor, however, is the push from the University for the Archives to find alternative control and access system/s. The University can no longer support the Archives' outdated, legacy systems. This naturally placed

considerable pressure on us to urgently initiate and facilitate the consolidation and migration of the current fragmented environment into one platform before any existing systems are shut down.

Why Recollect?

The Recollect platform will encompass two fundamental functions, both of which are equally important – the system will serve as the internal control system for the archival records but also present the public-facing side of the Archives, containing metadata and digital records made available online to users.

Recollect will entirely replace five of the six existing systems. The Archives website will be retained and provide the link to the Recollect environment. It will continue to be the landing page for users accessing the Archives via the University's website.

The magnitude of the task of preparing five systems for migration to Recollect is undoubtedly enormous but has afforded us the opportunity to rethink the status quo of how the Archives operate and the collection is managed, as well as how we can enhance user experience.

We considered a range of open source and subscription-based systems for the new online environment and, based on our criteria, we chose Recollect. The list of required system principles included six key, non-negotiable conditions. The Archives control and access system must:

- support accountability
- have extensive metadata
- facilitate multiple access points to records
- support archives to be kept permanently
- enable archives to be used
- provide online access to content and context.

Further, we determined that due to ongoing resourcing constraints, the new system must be customisable and scalable. The key deliverables that Recollect offers

- discovery, access, engagement, management, and

preservation – meet the fundamental needs of the Archives. Additionally, Recollect will present us with an unprecedented capacity for community and user engagement. Recollect is intended to become the exclusive portal through which users will be able to explore, discover, access, and interact with our rich collections.

Recollect is currently used by a variety of institutions, including universities, in Australia and New Zealand.

The array of clients within the Australasia region was a point in favour of Recollect, as local implementation and support were important considerations for us. Recollect, which began life as a branch of New Zealand Micrographics (NZMS), has experienced sustained growth since its inception in 2015, and has recently also extended its reach into the American market. The company has operated as an independent body since 2019.

The Recollect customer base is extensive, having signed on various clubs, historical societies, libraries, local and state government departments, professional associations, schools, trusts, and universities. This list is expanding continually and comes with an active user community group.

The universities in Australia that subscribe to Recollect include the University's own Fisher Library, the University of Adelaide, the University of New South Wales, the University of Newcastle, and the University of Wollongong. It will be immensely helpful for us to be able to access and leverage this existing experience and expertise. Recollect, as a highly configurable, hosted, and supported platform, is ideal for use as both an archival control system and as a community engagement platform. It is therefore interesting that the only institution in Australia using the system for both purposes is the City of Sydney Archives, and the Archives will likely be the next institution to follow in their footsteps.

The project relies heavily on the survey conducted by Archives staff in November 2020 to inform our considerations regarding user requirements (see pp 13). Recollect will meet the increasing demand for online access to digital records and rich metadata from current

and potential users, as identified through the survey responses. The community engagement aspect of Recollect is highly appealing to the Archives, which until now, has been unable to actively interact with its community. The results of the survey reinforced the Archives' motivation to develop a more collaborative approach to sharing our collections. The survey revealed that current users would like to see active, more meaningful engagement with the community.

Recollect features community engagement tools such as the ones requested by participants in the Archives' survey, including commenting and sharing to social media. This ability to comment and tag digital records within Recollect meets the demands of the engaged user and will also assist us with enhancing metadata and knowledge about the collections. Recollect caters for contextual, Archives-driven metadata as well as user-generated input, that together will form one rich record.

Amalgamating multiple access platforms into one single interface should eliminate some of the frustrations felt by current users but will also help to appeal to a wider audience that extends beyond the University community. The customisable nature of Recollect will enable us to consider novel ways of managing our collection.

An impressive level of connections and relationships can be created and established between content and contextual entities, in a manner previously unavailable. The linking is dynamic and real-time updates can be made as necessary, thus allowing us and the users to continually enrich the collections. The standard archival entities such as accession, person, series, and item will continue to form the backbone of the Archives, however, we are now in a unique position to develop and implement new entities, such as Building and Position, all of which will further build and establish contextual histories and stories. We also are considering additional entities that will capture administrative operations including conservation assessment, digitisation evaluation, location tracking and storage management. Most, if not all, aspects of archival management could thus be managed centrally, without needing to leave the Recollect platform.

Recollect recognises that metadata constitutes the core of any collection and provides essentially a blank slate for institutions to create their own metadata framework. We can reconceptualise how our metadata is structured and presented, for each of the existing and new entities. The metadata fields within CHAOS capture basic contextual information but Recollect will allow for additional, more complex, and linkable options. Our survey indicated that a hybrid style of searching, and researching was adopted by many users, suggesting that the Recollect platform will have to be designed in a way that allows for both structured and unstructured discovery of information and records. We hope that an updated entity model with enhanced metadata fields will streamline and make processes more efficient for both Archives staff and users.

Although the Archives will continue to use traditional archival entities, such as accessions, series, and items, these will be presented in a way that does not assume prior knowledge of archival theory by the users. A more intuitive interface can be offered to users, who may be casual or serious researchers with differing levels of expertise in using archives, while ensuring that the back end of the system meets the exacting needs and legislative obligations of the University under the NSW State Records Act 1998.

The survey results indicated that users approached looking for archives in two ways – precise searching and/or with an attitude of serendipitous discovery. Recollect can facilitate both types of access. The ability to create approval-based, controlled access groups for restricted records is also important to the Archives, which has custody of sensitive papers, including those related to First Nations Peoples and Communities.

Recollect as a company appears to be highly responsive to customer demand, which will allow us to adapt and develop the platform over time to meet new user requirements and needs, as well as global trends (for instance, by creating virtual exhibitions addressing current world events, e.g., Covid-19 experiences within the University community). A dynamic and proactive company and system will hopefully ensure we can

continue to make our content available through one platform on a long-term basis.

The Archives has employed a Project Archivist dedicated to work on Recollect, and staff are busy cleaning up and updating existing metadata, establishing new metadata fields, rethinking relationships between content and context entities, and creating guidelines. The project of consolidating five systems in their entirety, and partially a sixth, is a gargantuan task, however, the long-term advantages and benefits are inestimable.

The various features of Recollect, especially its level of customisability, will enable us to be adaptable and flexible, ensuring the usability of the archival collections over time, thereby meeting the needs of all members of the community. An enhanced online presence with more digital content should attract more University staff and students to collaborate with and use the Archives, thus increasing the profile of the Archives, and enhancing the University’s reputation for excellence in teaching and research.

User Survey

The survey was advertised through the University Intranet, alumni and student newsletters, and on the Archives’ website. The fourteen-part online questionnaire was open for four weeks and received a total of eighty-three responses.

Respondents

The largest number of responses, representing almost half of the respondents (30 out of 67), were received from professional staff at the University, followed by members of the public, which encouragingly suggests that users of the Archives extend beyond the doors of the University (Figure 1). The histories and stories contained within the Archives clearly appeal to the wider community, and it will be essential for the Archives to cater for this more expansive interest within the new platform. Students from the University took third place. This contrasts with academics, who came from both the University and from other institutions.

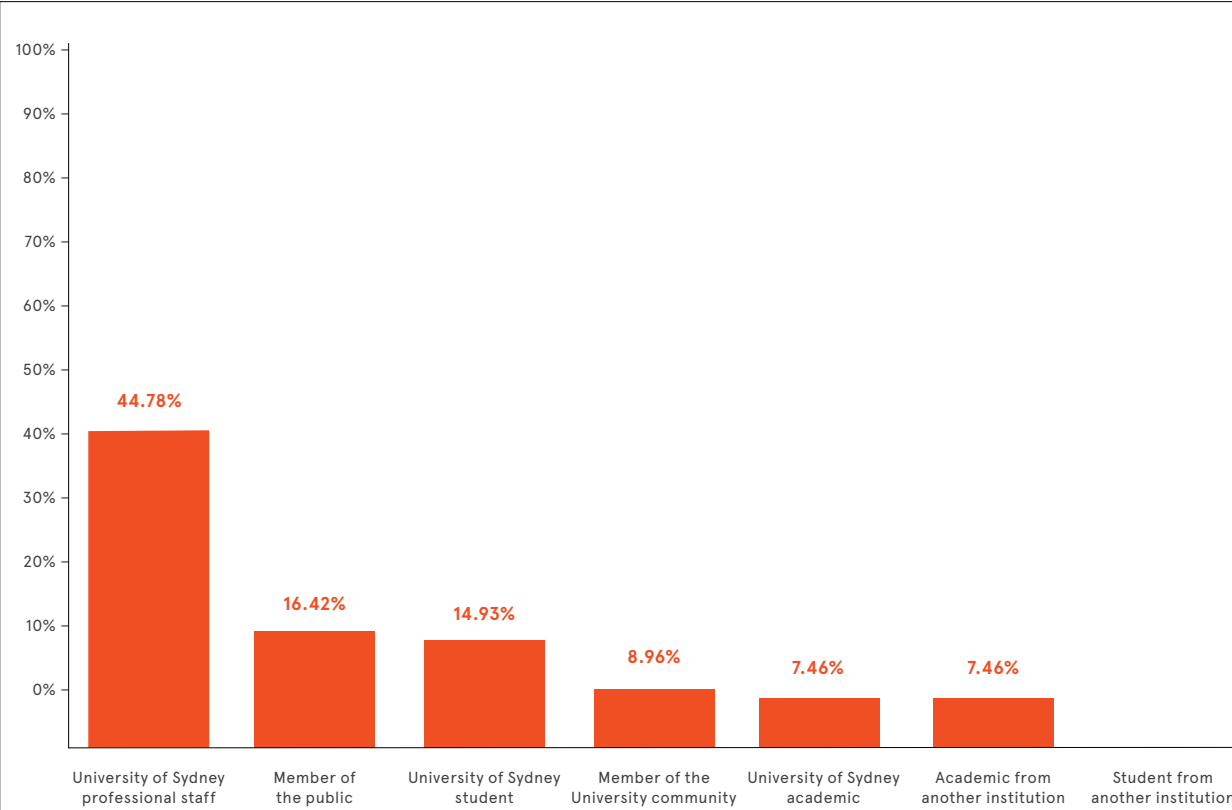


Figure 1. Question 14: Which statement best describes you? 67 respondents.

Most of the above cohort – approximately 70% – identified themselves as existing users of the Archives. While this group of users generally provided positive feedback about the existing access platforms, including simply commending the fact that the Archives has an online presence, the survey highlighted that there are a variety of factors and features the Archives needs to adopt, consider, and improve upon using the new access platform.

User Preferences

A key consideration when designing and structuring the Recollect system will revolve around how users search for records. The survey revealed that most respondents (35 out of 69) have a mixed approach to searching and researching – depending on the type of research being undertaken, respondents may dig deep into a specific topic of interest, skim across a broad range of topics and sources, and/or investigate in some detail across a range of areas. This eclectic style of researching indicates that records must be made available in a number of ways, such as finding aids, multiple access points and rich metadata that allows for enhanced keyword, Google-style, searching, as well as

curated collections or virtual exhibitions that enable a more spontaneous, unstructured type of research.

The survey sought additional details about how users would filter and structure their searches, for instance, by collection type, date, format, or subject (Figure 2). A large portion of respondents prefer to search by subject, but the majority indicated that they would, likely depending on the research inquiry, use multiple criteria to ‘build a search’. There was also the suggestion of happenstance, when ‘one thing leads to another’. The responses related to search and research styles confirmed our view that the new system will have to cater to and consider the needs of both the casual and the serious researcher. Recollect will have to be built, with rich metadata and easily accessible digital records, in a way that acknowledges and understands that some users may know precisely what they want, while others may approach their search with an uncertain query open to accidental discovery. The survey did not ascertain what level of research expertise and skills the respondents possessed, however, the system will no doubt need to

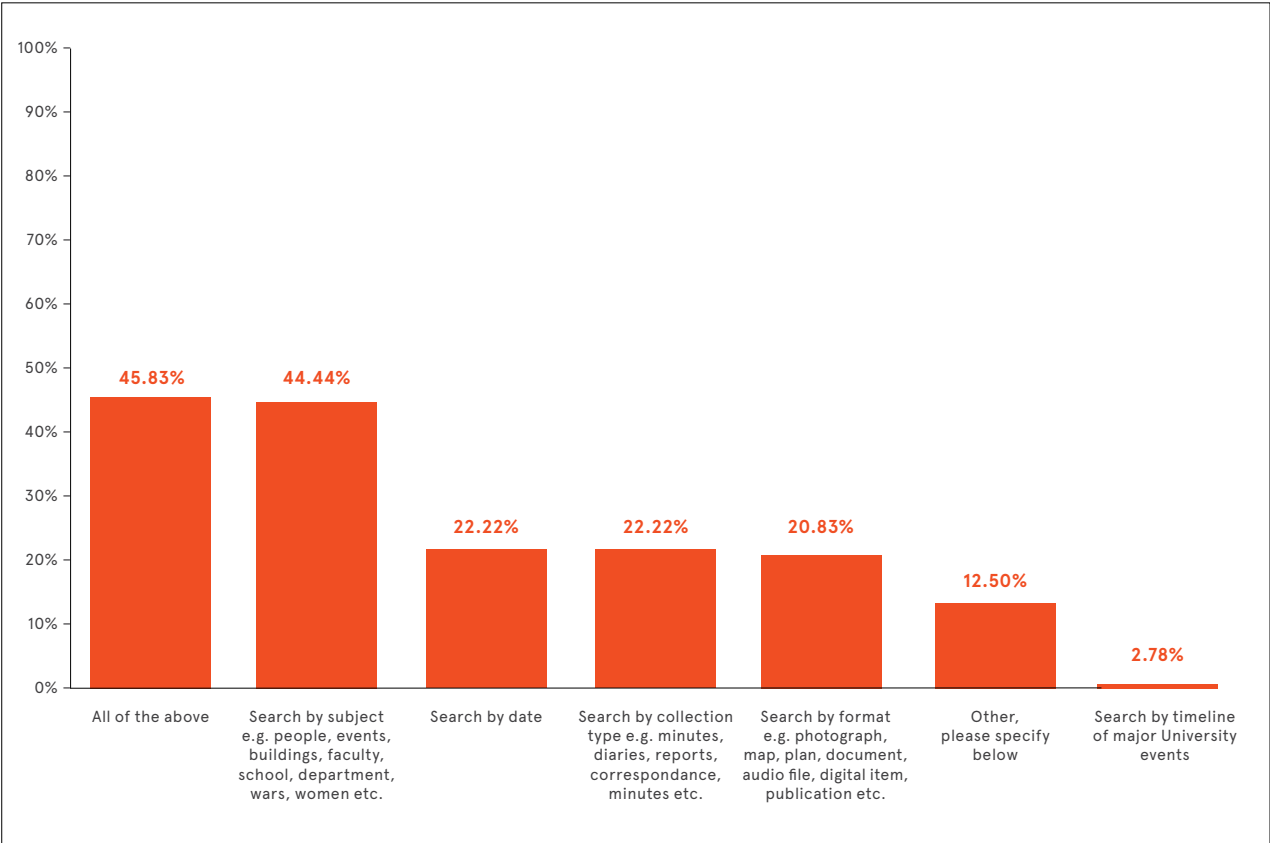


Figure 2. Question 2: If you were searching for University archives only, would you like to search by? 72 respondents.

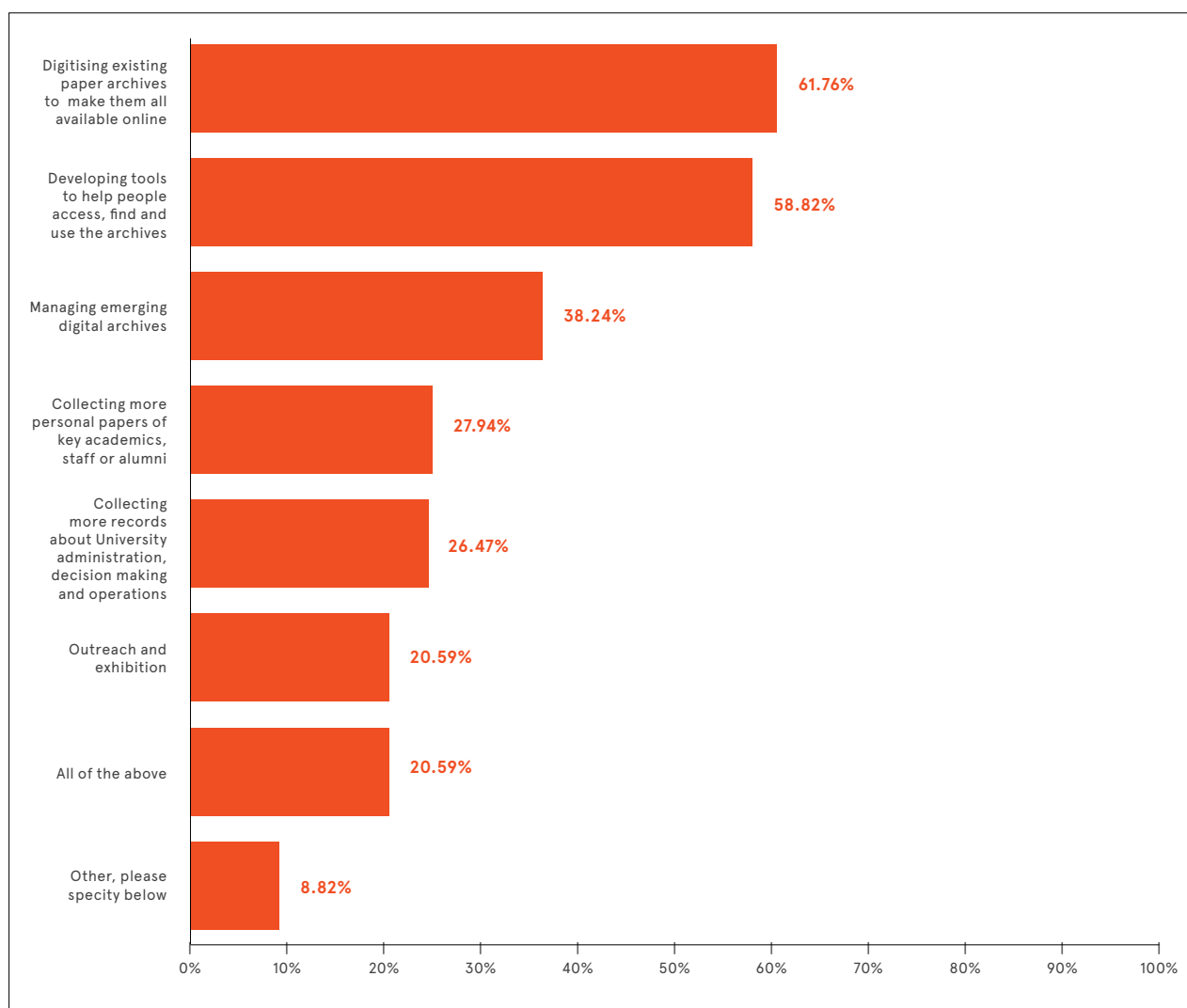


Figure 3. Question 7: What do you think should be key priorities for the University Archives? 68 respondents.

allow for users who can execute complex searches, as well as for users whose research skills are less developed.

User Engagement

Archives staff seek to change the current largely static nature of the access platforms by using Recollect for greater engagement with our users. The platform is well-suited for community engagement and will assist us in meeting the demands of the users.

The survey requested feedback from users about what features they would like to see adopted in the new environment (Figure 3). A number of responses focussed on the need to provide online access to digital records, with 51 out of 70 respondents making ‘online access to

digital copies of archives’ their top priority, and 49 out of 70 respondents considering the ‘ability to download images and documents’ the second most important feature for the Archives to implement.

A significant number of respondents indicated that they would like to see a higher level of interaction with the Archives and its collections, in the form of:

- sharing tools including the ability to post directly to social media
- the ability to ‘like’ records
- saved searches, which will entail the creation of a user profile
- the ability to add and view comments
- transcribing options.

The above question correlates with another where the majority of the 68 respondents considered ‘digitising existing paper archives to make them available online’ the key priority for the Archives. This, in addition to the other selections made by respondents, made it clear that richer user engagement is essential.

A third question further drove this demand for more meaningful engagement home. Although respondents cited research and professional work as the main reasons to use the Archives, some noted that they would be interested, given the ability, to use the Archives for exhibition, media and sharing with others (Figure 4). Recollect will allow us to truly explore this aspect of interaction with users, that will go beyond providing basic online access to metadata and digital records. Almost 40% of the 68 respondents recognised the importance

of ‘managing emerging digital archives’. We share this concern and are keen to utilise Recollect to effectively manage both born digital and digitised records.

All these responses align with our objectives for using Recollect. Ideally, the platform will persuade users to spend time using the Archives and encourage them to engage with the collection in novel and more meaningful ways.

Several respondents mentioned access to Mediabank and the Calendar Archive as highlights of the current online environment and as mentioned previously, both these resources will be migrated to Recollect in some form.

The survey also detailed additional collections and stories respondents would like to see the Archives explore, such as major events including pandemics, the student experience, the history of university buildings, and women.

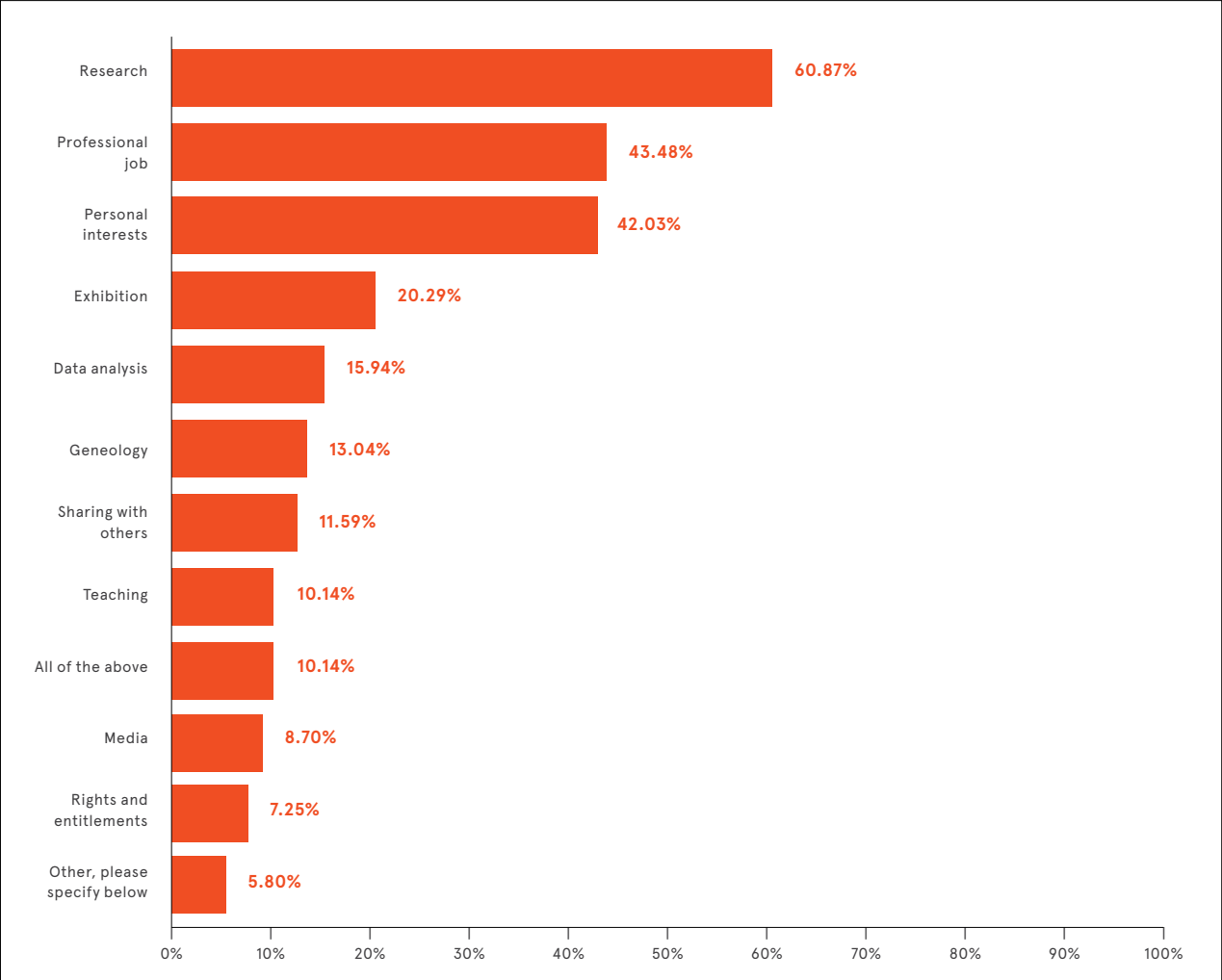


Figure 4. Question 5: Are you potentially interested in using University archives for any of the following? 69 respondents.

A few questions generated conflicting feedback; however, the range of answers are themselves an indication of the diverse range of considerations we will have to keep in mind when designing and implementing Recollect. The task of catering to the full spectrum of researchers, while meeting the needs and legal obligations of the Archives and the University through sound management of the records is immense, and will require us to reconceptualise our entity model, reassess our metadata

framework, and establish a strategy for effective engagement with all facets of the community.

The responses from the survey have been invaluable for our journey from six systems to one. As custodians of the University’s records of permanent and continuing value, the Archives exist to serve the immediate and wider community, and the new online platform will help facilitate that access and engagement.

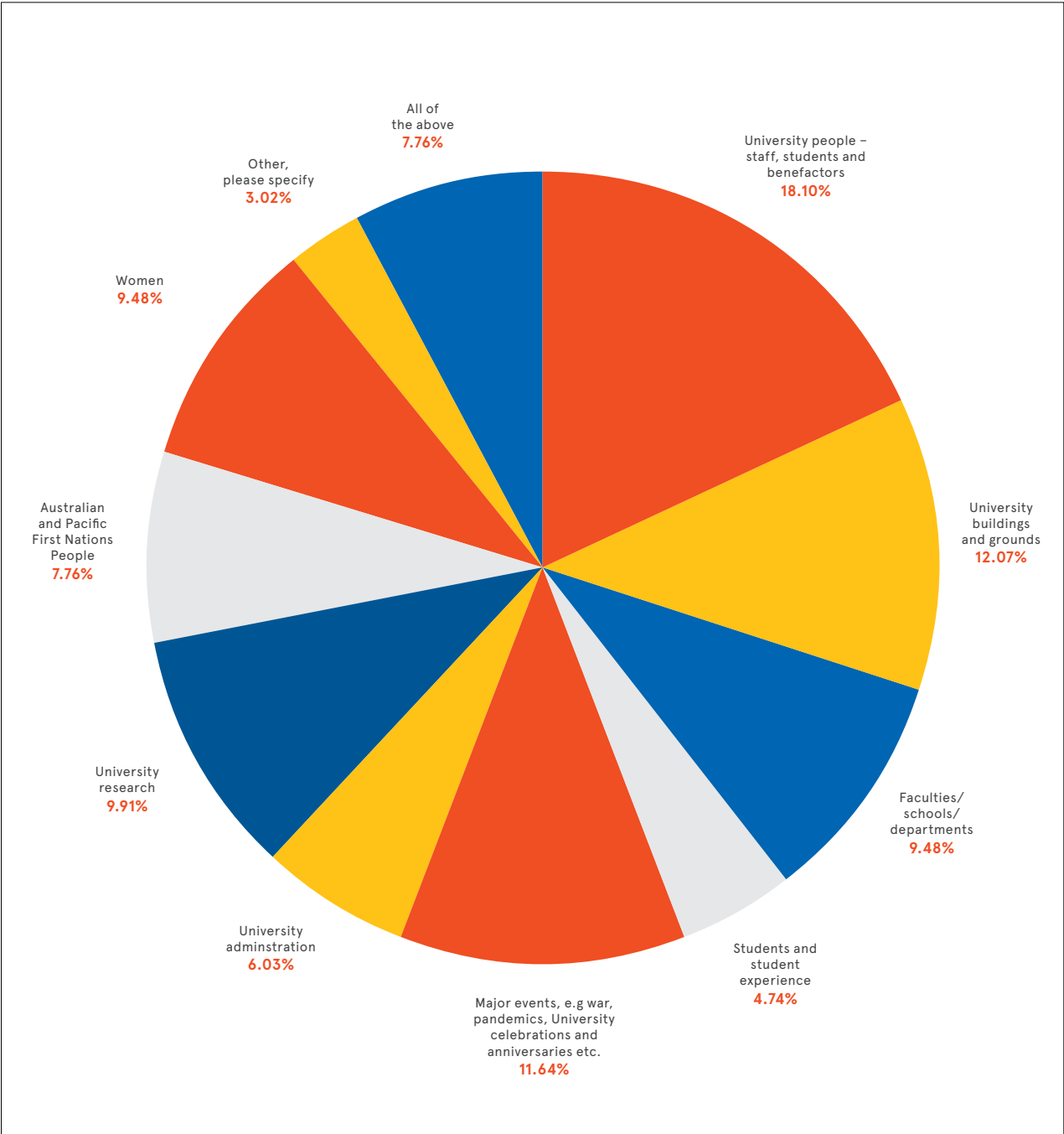


Figure 5. Question 3: If you were looking for University archives online, what topics and issues might you be interested in? 72 respondents.

Murray Gosper and the origins of *Honi Soit* and the SRC

The origin of this article, the first of several to deal with his time at the University, was writing the entry on James Murray Gosper OBE AM (1903–1997) for the *Australian Dictionary of Biography*. The ADB's very tight word limit was a constant challenge so this will expand on some aspects of Gosper's undergraduate life.

Tim Robinson

Gosper's major contributions to the University community started with the creation of *Honi Soit* and the Student's Representative Council (SRC) in 1929. Important in their own right, they became a prelude to an extraordinarily active professional and civic life resulting in significant contributions in many fields: including the building industry, higher education, local government and public administration.

Born in Sydney on 23 September 1903 and known as Murray, he was the only son of Sydney Ernest Marsden Gosper, an accountant and manager of the *Land* newspaper, and Petronella Gosper, nee Murray.¹ Murray attended Sydney Grammar from 1916 to 1923² and won a public exhibition to study Engineering at the University of Sydney in 1924.³ Resident at St Andrew's College in 1927 and 1928, Gosper's Bachelor of Engineering was conferred in 1932.⁴ In the same year he passed first year Constitutional Law.⁵

It would be an understatement to say Gosper was active in student affairs, it went beyond anything seen before, or since, and permanently changed student politics at the University. Table 1 lists the offices he held in student bodies, from 1925 to 1933.



James Murray Gosper [G3_224_0159]

Table 1. Offices held by Murray Gosper, 1925 to 1933.

Undergraduates' Association	Engineering II year representative 1925-6
	Secretary (non-medical) 1926, 1927
	Vice-president 1928, 1931, 1932-3, 1933-4
	President 1929-30
Evening Students' Association	Undergraduate Associate representative 1926, 1927
Engineering Club	Undergraduate committee member 1925-6
Engineering Undergraduates Association	Vice-president 1929
University Union	Member of Board of Directors 1926-7, 1927-8, 1931-2, 1932-3
Hunt Club	Committee member 1927, 1928
Rifle Club	General committee, 1928-9, 1929-30
Students' Representative Council	Inaugural President 1930 (elected 2 December 1929)
Sydney University Sports Union	Vice-president 1932-3

Source: *Calendars*, 1925-33.



Undergraduates' Association Committee, 1925. Gosper is second from the left middle row. [P70_7_014]

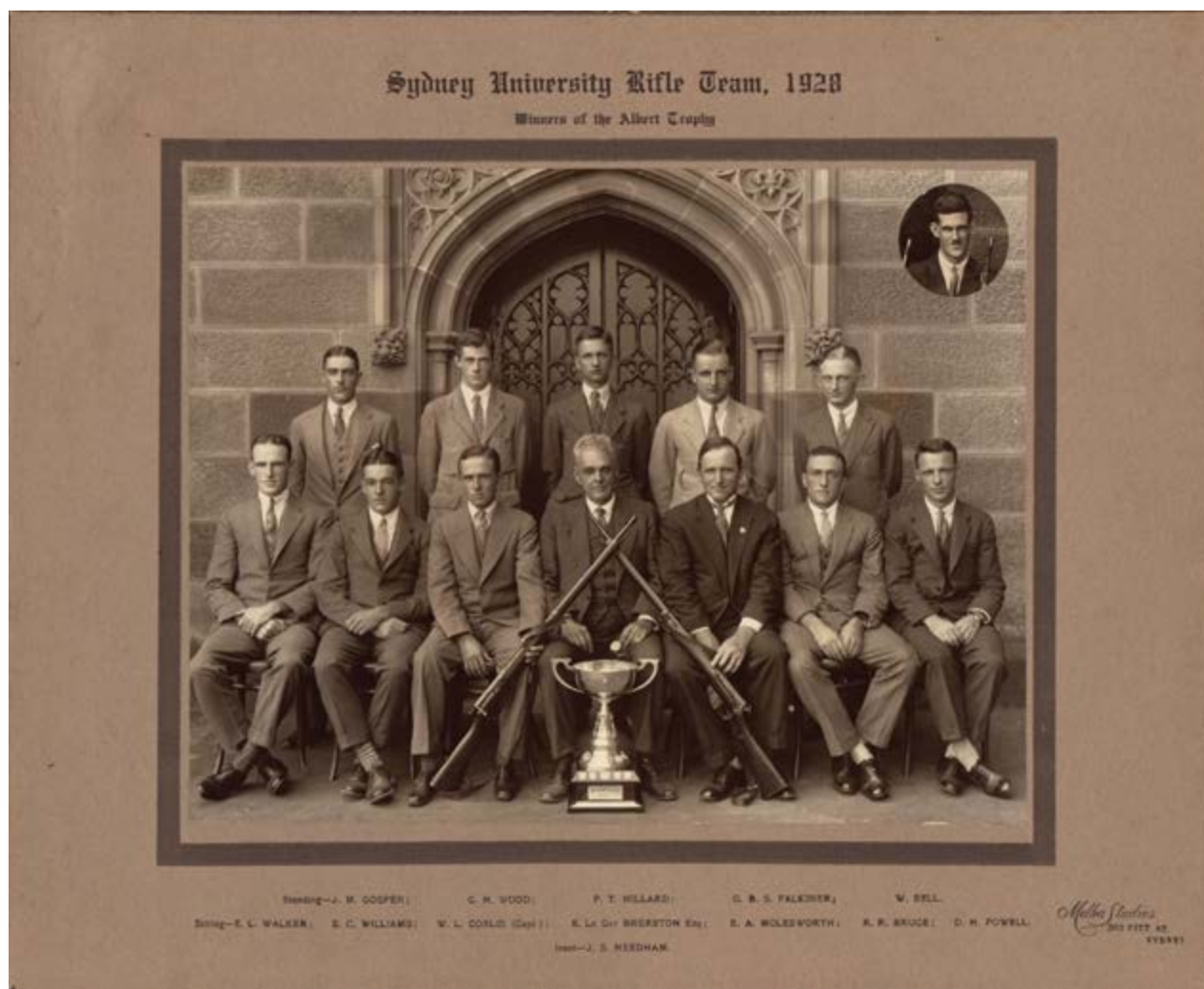


Sydney University Athletic Team, Wallace Cup Team 1926. Gosper is back row, far right. [P70_7_010]

In addition to tireless work in student organisations, Gosper represented the University in several sports and won blues for rifle shooting (Sydney, Imperial Universities and Australian Universities) and found time to be active in revues. Unsurprisingly, Gosper's academic record may be kindly described as patchy,⁶ though not for lack of ability. The *Engineering Yearbook* of 1931 noted that "Latterly he has left executive work to other hands and has devoted more of his tireless energy to passing exams."⁷

Gosper's most significant achievement was the formation of the Students' Representative Council, of which he was elected inaugural president in December 1929. The background to the formation of the SRC is not what might have been expected.

Gosper, with the assistance of the Vice-Chancellor, Robert Strachan Wallace, gained the University Senate's approval to organise a Festival Week in the tradition of "Commem" (Commemoration of benefactors) which had been banned from 1924 following a history of complaints of objectionable conduct by students.⁸ *Honi Soit* was established as the "official journal"⁹ of the Undergraduates' Association in 1929 to publicise the proposed student festival.¹⁰ The second issue of *Honi Soit* exhorted: "Honi Soit," whose purpose it is, above all, to maintain the dignity of this great Corporation, would like to remind students that it is possible to have a good time without descending to hooliganism"¹¹



Rifle Team, 1928. Gosper is far left on the back row. [P70_7_012]

Sadly, and despite the best of intentions, Festival Week ended with outrage and allegations of the desecration of the Cenotaph in Martin Place.¹² On the evening of 21 May 1929, a large University group went to the Tivoli Theatre. Following continual interjections and peanut throwing by some students an English comedian jumped off the stage and punched unsuspecting students. The show closed early, and some students formed a “crocodile” that snaked its way through Martin Place.¹³ It was there that it was claimed the Cenotaph was desecrated which resulted in outrage in the press. Given the impact of the Great War on Australia the vehemence of the criticism of the students claimed conduct was unsurprising, but there are elements of “town and gown” in some coverage. The Vice-Chancellor, Gosper and the

Undergraduates’ Association were unreserved in their criticism of the minority who caused the scandal. Gosper was quoted in *Honi Soit* saying that “...perpetrators of hooliganism will not be shielded.”¹⁴ However, the University suffered significant damage to its public standing.

A meeting of all students was called at the University the following morning, 22 May 1929. A motion was carried protesting against the conduct of a small number of students, expressing regret for what happened and endorsing the Vice-Chancellor’s cancellation of the rest of the festival. Reporters and photographer from the *Sydney Morning Herald* were present to record the meeting and what happened next:

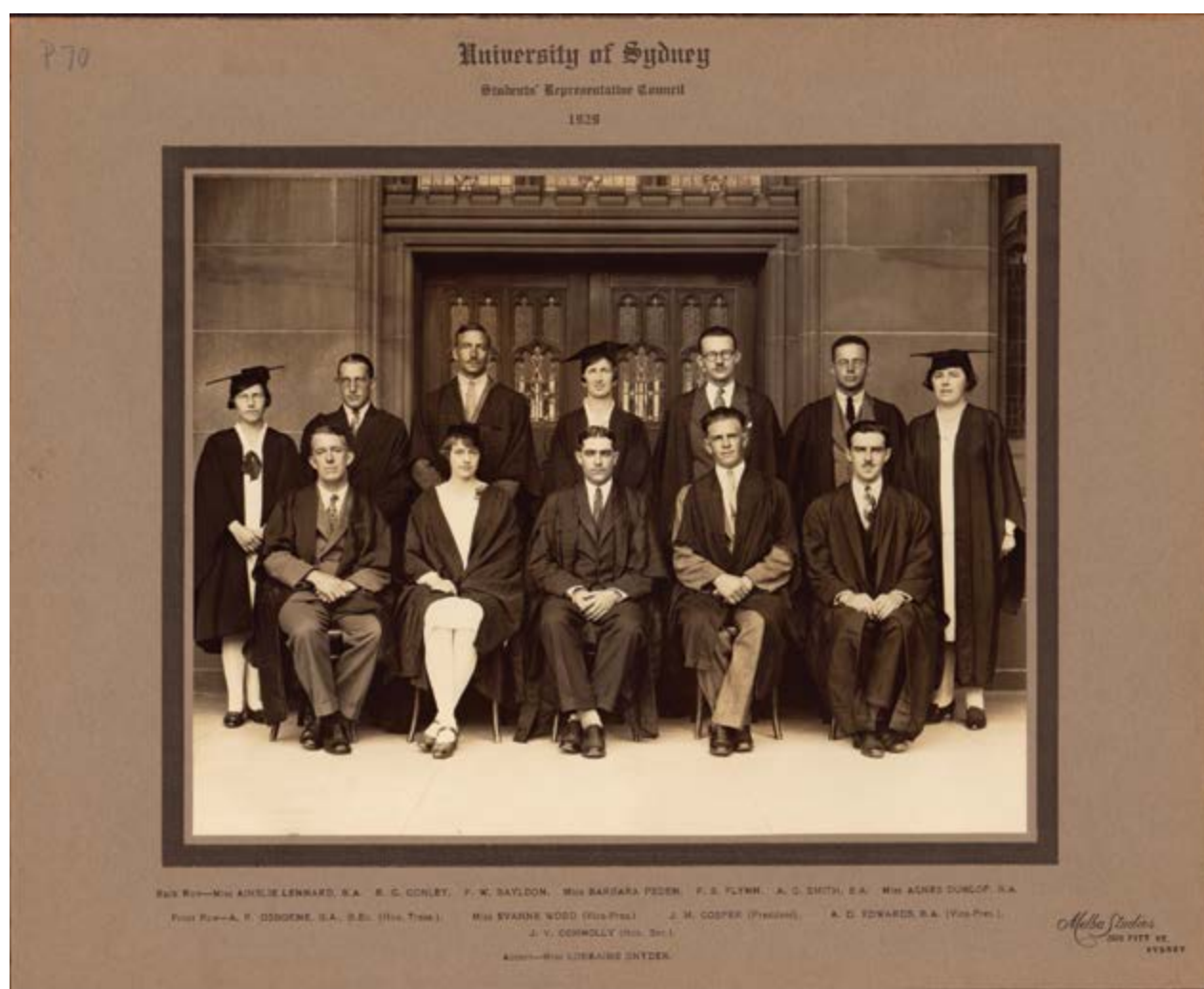
From the undergraduates of Sydney University, as an apology for the insult to our glorious dead." This was the inscription on a large wreath placed on the Cenotaph yesterday afternoon. Twenty-six representatives of the undergraduates, wearing black academic gowns, and led by the president of the association (Mr. JMGosper), performed the ceremony.¹⁵

Gosper was reported to have been deeply affected at the student meeting,¹⁶ however having the media present showed skill in public relations which was to be a feature of Gosper's later career. In addition to the wreath laying, the Undergraduates' Association wrote an apology to the RSL, which was accepted and duly reported in the daily papers.¹⁷ A subsequent University disciplinary investigation found that there was no intentional

deseccration of the Cenotaph and some of the "crocodile" had knocked over flower stalls in Martin Place.¹⁸ *Honi Soit* later reported that it

... hesitates to add its quota to a nauseating chronicle. Suffice it to say had this journal had the task of indicting the students on that occasion, it would have confined itself to the facts. But then, "Honi Soit" has no revenue to think of.¹⁹

In its 28 June 1929 issue *Honi Soit* published an "Open letter to the Sydney press" in which it accused the press of not telling the truth about what had happened.²⁰ Regardless of what occurred at the Cenotaph, the whole episode highlighted the lack of cohesion in student organisations. *Honi Soit* devoting the first page of that issue to the



SRC, 1929. Gosper is middle, front row. [P70_7_008]

question: “Is reorganisation necessary?”²¹ it reflected on the scandal of that Festival Week and decided:

The solution must lie in some re-organisation of the student body. On every occasion where conduct has been unseemly, the Undergraduates Association has taken the responsibility. And yet that Association only represents, at the most, forty per cent. of the students. Powerful societies exist within the university for all sorts of purposes, and all manner of interests are served disjointly. “Honi Soit” thinks that the way to brighter times was pointed by the action of the Undergraduates’ Association in appointing a committee representative of every phase of University life to arrange the last Festival Week. If that committee had been formed from a body so constituted as to embrace within its four walls every interest within the University, its gargantuan labours would not have gone for naught, and the celebrations would not have come to such a sudden and tragic end.”²²

Gosper became focussed on the creation of a single body representative of all students in addition to the four existing associations for undergraduates, men, women, and evening students. As part of the research for the proposed re-organisation Gosper wrote to the student bodies at leading universities throughout the world asking about their structure. The Undergraduates’ Association was struck by the number who had compulsory membership, which compared unfavourably with the 40% membership of the Undergraduates’ Association.²³

On 7 November 1929 *Honi Soit* published a draft constitution for the proposed Students’ Representative Council. It was written by Professor, soon to be Sir John Peden, “a towering figure in the University”, professor of Law and Chair of the Professorial Board.²⁴ It created a “Student Body” and “Representative Council.”²⁵ The Student Body consisted of all students, matriculated or unmatriculated, enrolled at the University and who

paid the annual membership fee. It also comprised the existing student associations: Undergraduates, Women Undergraduates, Evening Students and Women Evening Students. The Representative Council was made up of representatives of each association and a president chosen by the representatives.²⁶

The object and functions of the SRC were:

“...to promote the interests and maintain the traditions of the University and the Student Body. The Council shall represent the Student Body and conduct the affairs thereof.”

At one of the largest meetings of the Undergraduates’ Association on 8 November 1929 Gosper moved the adoption of the constitution, which was accepted unanimously. In a motion of thanks to Gosper it was recognised that he had “...experienced one of the most difficult years in the history of the University” and that he would be recognised in the future as the founder of the SRC.²⁷ Gosper was elected the first President on 2 December 1929 and the constitution was then approved by Senate on 9 December 1929.²⁸

The SRC’s first full year was 1930, and the first issue of *Honi Soit* that year was optimistic for the future. The Vice-Chancellor, Professor RM Wallace, had said to a dinner for Gosper as retiring president that he had “forgotten all about” the scandal of Festival Week. He went on to accurately describe Gosper’s personality and future career:

“Mr Gosper has ideas, but what is more, he has the tenacity to see them through.”²⁹

Despite his achievements, Gosper’s work in reorganising bodies at the University, and elsewhere, was far from over. The second part of this article will review his work at the University from 1930.

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Doctors, academics and eugenics: an unsavoury mixture

This is an edited version of a paper that was delivered as part of the University of Sydney Medical Foundation Building Seminar Series, 16 April 2021.

John Carmody

In 2018, Professor John Rasko of the University of Sydney gave the annual Boyer Lectures on ABC Radio. He called his lectures – which were as philosophical as they were scientific – *Life Re-engineered* and, in the context of the explosion in our knowledge and technical capability concerning DNA, they were unquestionably timely.¹ As a descendant of “Holocaust Survivors”, he considered morality as well as practice in modern molecular biology, while speaking as a realist as well as a philosopher. He wrote:

The Nazi troops killed six million-or-more Jews during the Second World War and – incredible as it seems – they imagined their final solution was serving the greater good. In their twisted way, the Nazis thought they were improving the heritable characteristics of the German people and, beyond that, the people of Europe. To achieve their goal of a master race, the Nazis began eliminating those they judged to be genetically inferior and degenerate -- chiefly the Jews, but also people with mental and physical disabilities, ‘gypsies’, ethnic Poles, homosexuals, political opponents and others.

They did this in the name of ‘racial hygiene’ or, more broadly, ‘eugenics’. This word is hard for me to utter. Eugenics. It’s the systematic effort to breed a superior race or group of people. The Nazis didn’t invent this idea. More than two thousand years ago, Plato argued in favour of breeding people, much as people have always bred animals and plants. In Plato’s ideal Republic, the Rulers arranged things so that the best men would mate with the best women as often as possible, and the inferior men with the inferior women as seldom as possible.²

That enduringly nettlesome word, “eugenics”, was coined in England, in 1883, by Charles Darwin’s half-cousin, Francis Galton.³ A brilliant, if ethically narrow, man who was one of the founders of “psychometrics”, he derived his neologism from the classical term, “*eugenes*, namely, good in stock, hereditarily endowed with noble qualities.”⁴

One of his brilliant acolytes, was Karl Pearson who was a superior mathematics student at Cambridge (1876–1879). He was also a committed eugenicist and was the first occupant of the Galton Chair of Eugenics at the University of College London (UCL) (1911–1933).⁶ This was the same Pearson who devised the chi-square test, and the concept of “standard deviation”, amongst other widely adopted statistical concepts and techniques.

RA Fisher,⁷ another eminent statistician, was a successor to Pearson both in that UCL Chair *and* as President of the British Eugenics Society (he had joined in 1910, when aged 20). Fisher wrote, “The classes concerned...owe their national value to the very fact that by their brains and skill they support society and are not supported by it.”⁸ This almost solipsistic dismissal of what the “other classes” contribute to the lives of the privileged should strike the modern reader as revolting, even as we also try to keep in mind what the great historian, EP Thompson memorably called “the enormous condescension of posterity”.⁹

I mention these people not only to explain the background of what “eugenics” is, but also to emphasise the fact that, being all of them British, *they* were the inspiration of Australia’s early eugenicists, good colonials as they inevitably were.

But, as Professor Rasko observed, “Australia was no slouch, either” and *medical academics* were, from the outset, prominent in the eugenics movement here. Not only *them*, of course. The “educated” and “creative” classes were also deeply involved: amongst the most notable (as I’ve recently become aware through a book by Isobel Crombie¹⁰) were the renowned photographer, Max Dupain, and his father, who ran a school of physical culture in Sydney. “Beach culture” – a reflection of the “perfect” Australian body (Crombie’s term is “Body Culture”) -- was almost an obsession for Dupain.

Essentially, though, *two* groups of people were involved with nascent Australian eugenics. First, there were wives of professional men, whose concern was family planning, particularly the alleviation of the reproductive burden on poverty-stricken women and those in the lower income groups, generally.¹¹ The *other* cohort, mainly doctors and academics, were largely the early public health physicians and government health administrators who were interested in “racial improvement” as a means of enhancing health and life – essentially **white** life – in Australia. Accordingly, the “Racial Improvement Society” was founded in 1926, though it changed its name, in 1928, to the more euphemistic, “Racial Hygiene Society”. In 1960 it became the Family Planning Association of NSW.¹²

One of its prominent members was Dr Harvey Sutton, the first Director of the Commonwealth’s School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine at the University of Sydney (1929) and the foundation Professor of Preventive Medicine there (1930).

While still in Melbourne, after his return from Oxford in 1909, Sutton was involved with the formation of the Melbourne Eugenics Education Society in 1914.¹³ Even then, he was an ardent eugenicist. When just 31, he gave a lecture in Melbourne in which he stated that though “eugenics was of comparatively recent development, the subject was an extremely broad one and one of the greatest importance to the world generally”.¹⁴ Accordingly, he insisted “eugenics must be applied to marriages.” Almost as if to demonstrate his eugenic *bona fides*, he also opined that most marriages and

children “do not represent the picked intellectual class of the community.” Warming to his theme, Sutton ominously declared that “Degenerate idiots *et cetera* were to be wiped out by segregation and isolation”. His peroration included the declaration that, “Eugenics was economically invaluable, and its worth from a humanitarian point of view was inestimable.”

After moving to Sydney in 1920, as Principal Medical Officer of the NSW Department of Public Instruction, Sutton was a foundation member of the Racial Hygiene Society. He believed in “the superiority of the Australian racial type” and was thoroughly concerned that “the British race in Australia was ‘showing evidence of physical deterioration’”¹⁵ -- the **white** British race, be it noted. Even worse, he “openly supported fascist regimes”¹⁶ and Grant Rodwell wrote of Sutton’s concern about the “incurable dysgenic influence on Australia’s



Harvey Sutton, Professor of Preventative Medicine, 1921. [G3_224_1053]

race culture”: Rodwell further noted that, even in his student lectures.¹⁷ Sutton “continued to advocate the sterilisation of mental defectives”. As early as 1909 he had advocated the ideal of state-controlled marriages but was pessimistic about its likelihood here.¹⁸

According to Professor Warwick Anderson, Sutton “recommended a classification of children by ‘racial stream’, indicating the degree of Australianness and ‘a national stocktaking’”. Dr Mary Booth¹⁹ (BA 1890, Sydney, and a medical graduate of Edinburgh University, 1899), whom Anderson called “an early votary of eugenics”, supported that viewpoint.²⁰ In a research paper, she stated “The eugenicist, in conformity with modern thought that science has its highest sanction when it is of service to man, makes use of the data of anthropometry for his study of what the race may become.”²¹ After a short period in private practice, Dr Booth worked mainly as a health educator, principally in schools; in both Victoria and NSW she knew and worked closely with Sutton.²² They had further professional connections after Sutton moved to Sydney.²³

Another “stalwart” of the Eugenics Education Society” (and admirer of Galton²⁵) is, to this day, accorded almost saintly reverence at Sydney University: the redoubtable Professor Anderson Stuart, foundation Professor of Anatomy and Physiology and, later, all-powerful Dean of Medicine. As early as 1892 he had told Galton that he planned to emulate his London Anthropometrical Laboratory in Sydney.²⁶ Like Sutton after him, Anderson Stuart seemed omnipresent in the Sydney press. He was a prolific joiner of societies and organisations of bewilderingly diverse sorts, one of which was the Sydney branch of Dr Richard Arthur’s Immigration League of Australia (including time as President). Freemasonry was another. He was a member of the University of Sydney Lodge (yes! one does exist²⁷) and became Deputy Grand Master of the United Grand Lodge of NSW. Those facts are a reminder of how Protestant the University of Sydney was in those times, something which may explain the academic appeal of eugenics, given Diana Wyndham’s statement that the Australian Catholic clergy were “implacably opposed” to eugenics.^{28,29}

In mid-1912 Anderson Stuart was one of four official Australian delegates whom the ALP Commonwealth government accredited to attend the First International Eugenics Congress in London.³⁰ Soon after his return, in December, the Eugenics Education Society of NSW was established; and Anderson Stuart became a member. Anderson Stuart, brilliant though he was, might well have been seduced by his power and renown (both within the university and the wider community). He also seems to have lacked the self-reflectiveness to allow him to shake free of the prejudices of his class and time. In that respect, he seemed all too typical of his fellow academics in Sydney and elsewhere.



Thomas Peter Anderson Stuart, Professor of Anatomy & Physiology, 1906 [G3_224_1724]

In his lecture Professor Rasko found that word, “eugenics”, hard to utter. However, the ideology has **not** disappeared. Indeed, Rasko was correct: it is making a return and its shadow overhangs us all³¹ especially our universities. In response to agitation by students and staff at University College London, in October 2018 that university established a “Commission of Inquiry on the History of Eugenics at UCL”. The investigation acknowledged the long association between UCL and Galton, whose bequest had established the Chair of Eugenics. “Although a very different place than it was in the 19th century, UCL is also historically associated with eugenics,” its report stated and acknowledged further, “Through the financial donation of Galton to UCL, racism was allowed to be married to science and within UCL this link between science and racism was embraced.”³²

Accordingly, on January 7 this year, UCL issued a formal apology which included this statement from its President and Provost: “UCL considers its history of involvement in eugenics to be in direct contradiction to its founding values of equality, openness and humanity. As a community, we reject eugenics entirely and are taking a range of actions to acknowledge and address our historical links with the eugenics movement.

These actions – including our public apology today -- are important steps towards understanding and acknowledging inequality within our institution and acting to ensure that UCL becomes fully inclusive for all our staff and students.”

I suspect that it is only a matter of time before other Australian universities – including Sydney University – are similarly compelled to establish official investigations, with apologies to follow.

The lesson is that eugenics is making a disturbing resurgence and, as of old, academics are actively involved. Universities must be on guard lest, like too many of their forebears, they abandon the obligation of their calling to rely on evidence, independence of mind and rigorous scrutiny of their own possible prejudices. Therefore, no academic or doctor can escape the complexity of the ethical challenges which confront *all* such professionals, let alone the obligation to think seriously about those responsibilities. That same obligation ceaselessly confronts university and hospital administrators.

When we ignore those moral imperatives, we have abandoned our essential humanity.

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4. Galton F (1883) *Inquiries into human faculty and its development*, London, Macmillan, p24.
5. Pearson was a superior mathematics student at Cambridge. He studied physics at Heidelberg as well as mediaeval law and literature, there. He also studied law in London.
6. *Inquiry into the History of Eugenics at UCL – Final Report* (2020), Accessed 6 April 2020: https://www.ucl.ac.uk/provost/sites/provost/files/ucl_history_of_eugenics_inquiry_report.pdf
7. In 1912, Fisher gained a first-class honours degree in mathematics at Cambridge University. In 1943 he took the Balfour Chair of Genetics there. From 1957 until his death in 1962, he lived in Adelaide where he worked in the CSIRO.
8. Fisher RA (1917) 'Positive Eugenics', *The Eugenics Review*, 9, 206-212, p206.
9. Thompson EP (1963) *The making of the English working class*, Vintage Books, p12.
10. Crombie I (2004) *Body Culture: Max Dupain, Photography and Australian Culture, 1919-1939*, Victoria, National Gallery of Victoria.
11. Such as Marian Piddington and Lillie Goodisson ("the driving force behind the Racial Hygiene Association") whom Diana Wyndham wrote about in 2003, *Eugenics in Australia: Striving for National Fitness*, London, The Galton Society. See also, their entries in volumes 11 and 9 of the *Australian Dictionary of Biography*.
12. Wyndham, *ibid*. Notably in her tables on pp123-125.
13. Rodwell G (1998) 'Professor Harvey Sutton: National hygienist as eugenicist and educator', *Journal of the Royal Australian Historical Society*, 84, pp164-179.
14. *The Age*, 30 April 1913, p11.
15. Rodwell, p169.
16. Wyndham, p314.
17. Sutton H (1994) *Lectures in Preventive Medicine*, Sydney, Consolidated Press.
18. Rodwell, p166.
19. For more information on Mary Booth, see *The Australian Dictionary of Biography* <https://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/booth-mary-5291>
20. Anderson W (2005) *The cultivation of whiteness: Science, health and racial destiny in Australia*, Melbourne, Melbourne University Press, pp169-170.
21. Booth M (1912) 'School anthropometrics: The importance of Australasian measurements conforming to the schedule of the British Anthropometric Committee, 1906', *Report of the 13th meeting of AAAS Sydney 1911*. Sydney 1912, pp689-693.
22. *The Age*, 16 February 1910 p6.
23. *Sydney Morning Herald*, 17 November 1933 p10.
24. Wyndham, p136. Earlier, on p119, she had described him in 1905 as "sympathetic" to eugenics.
25. "Eugenics Society", *Sydney Morning Herald*, 24 February 1914, p12.
26. Wyndham, p272.
27. Lodge of The University of Sydney 544 was consecrated on 24 October 1924 and continues to this day. <https://www.luos544.com/> Accessed 29 July 2021. The late Professor Joan Kerr once told the author of seeing a room in the Quadrangle Building, at the University of Sydney, which was fully set up as a Masonic Temple.
28. Wyndham, p4.
29. A hint of this sectarian divide was provided in a brief report in the *Freeman's Journal*, 26 September 1912; p38. (An independent Sydney Catholic newspaper). Referring to the 1st International Congress on Eugenics, it stated: "Because their religion forbids race suicide and their children are consequently much more numerous than in Protestant families, Catholics are gradually making a Catholic country of the United States, Dr. F. L. Homan, of Newark, N.J., told the International Eugenics Congress in London recently."
30. Wyndham D (1996) *Striving for National Fitness: Eugenics in Australia – 1910s to 1930s*. PhD thesis. University of Sydney, p137.
31. The UCL report uses this phrase repeatedly e.g., on p7 *Inquiry into the History of Eugenics at UCL*.
32. *Ibid*, p6.

Archives news

COVID-19 Update

The University Archives reopened for researchers in August 2020 albeit at reduced opening hours. Unfortunately, as with all Greater Sydney, the University Archives had to close its doors again at the end of June this year. Staff have continued to answer enquiries but without access to the Archives, some enquiries will have to wait until we are allowed back on campus.

Surprisingly, despite not having the physical records to hand, there is a variety of work staff can do from home, such as continuing to answer enquiries as best we can, updating/creating series and item descriptions and capturing metadata for born digital records. And, with the migration of the control system and the other legacy systems as mentioned in the article on page 10, staff have been busy with this project and will continue to be for the next 12-18 months.

Staff are looking forward to being back on campus and working with the actual records and welcoming researchers back to the search room.

Judy Butlin article addendum

In the Archivists notes for the 2019/20 edition of *Record*, Sydney Butlin. is referenced as “Sid” when it is “Syd”.

An error was made in the footnotes of Judy Butlin’s article *Archives – an invaluable resource* in the previous issue of *Record*. Footnote 3 is in the wrong place – it should be referenced at the end of the paragraph at the top of p.14. Where footnote 3 is referenced in the text should be footnote 4.

We apologise for these errors.

Chancellor’s Committee Funding

The Archives were successful in obtaining funding from the Chancellors Committee to develop a new search interface for the *Beyond 1939* website, enhancements to

the *Heurist* database that contains all the biographical information, and for a research assistant to compile biographical information on those University members who served in WWII. Liz Gillroy has been working with the Archives in undertaking this research.

See page 33 for a project update.

Many thanks to the Chancellor’s Committee for their continual support of the Archives.

Digitisation Projects

The University Archives is digitising key university governance records such as those of the Senate, Professorial Board and the Senate Building and Grounds Committee, to make available for research through the new online platform. However, the COVID-19 pandemic has brought a halt to the project. There are other digitisation projects that have been stalled, and as can be imagined we are not the only archive, gallery, museum, and library who have been affected.

Despite this delay to the digitisation of the archives, we are very pleased to announce the following digitisation projects which should commence as soon as restrictions allow.

Digitisation of Australian First Nation photographs

Over the past 6 years the Archives has had digitised the photographs pertaining to Australian First Nations people within the personal papers of AP Elkin, Professor of Anthropology (1934-1956). There are approx. 1500 images pertaining to Australia that are still to be digitised. The Archives has received project funding from the Deputy Vice Chancellor – Indigenous Strategy and Services (DVC ISS) to digitise the remaining images.

The University Archives would like to thank the DVC ISS for their generous funding and supporting the Archives in preserving these valuable images.

Law School

The Archives are excited to be working with the Law School on its history project which will include digitisation of key Law School records such as the school minutes and administrative files on matters such as the Law School Building in the city and staff.

Francis Forbes Society Funding

The Law School will also generously fund the digitisation of the Law School Comfort Fund records. The Comfort Fund was set up during WWII to keep legal professionals and students up to date with the profession and the Law School, as well as provide reading material and care packages while serving overseas. The records include letters from the recipients of the care packages, diaries, a Book of Remembrance compiled by the Fund and a collection of bound firsthand accounts of various theatres of war experienced by the law men serving.

The Francis Forbes Society for Australian Legal History have generously provided funding towards the digitisation of the letters.

The University Archives would like to thank both the Law School and the Francis Forbes Society for their generous funding and supporting the Archives.

Thomas J Burns Award

Congratulations to Professors Frank Clarke (University of Newcastle), Graeme Dean (University of Sydney) and Martin Persson (University of Illinois) for receiving the Thomas J Burns Award for *Accounting Thought and Practice Reform. Ray Chambers' Odyssey*, at the American Accounting Association's August 2021 Annual Meeting, held virtually.

Annually, this award acknowledges outstanding biographical research in the discipline of accountancy, either for a single publication or for a lifetime of biographical work. The nomination for the award noted that the biography is "a sympathetic portrait of one of the outstanding accounting thinkers of the twentieth century (Geoffrey Whittington, Cambridge University)". It is based on one of the most comprehensive and extensive archives in the history of accounting. That archive includes Professor Chambers' extensive library,



records of accounting issues for the period 1950 to 1990 and a treasure trove of correspondence which Chambers built up, and preserved, as he interacted with all the principal players, and many others, during the accounting profession's turbulent years in which he was a major player.

Sadly, Professor Frank Clarke died on 1 January 2020. However, in October 2019 he was able (with the co-authors) to receive the Australian Society of Archivist's 2018 Mander Jones Award for the biography on Chambers.

University Seal

A recent episode of Antiques Roadshow featured an Army Gold Medal with striking similarities to the University Seal.

On 2 March 1851, Senate appointed a sub-committee to propose a device for a corporate seal. A month later,

Senate adopted with "certain alterations" a design submitted by Marshall Claxton.

As one can see there are striking similarities. The Army Gold Medal was established in 1810 to reward service at Napoleonic war battles since 1808. It was designed by Thomas Wyton (1792-1817) and shows Britannia with a shield, seated and facing left and holding a laurel wreath in her right hand and a palm branch in her left. Behind her is the head of a lion.

Claxton studied at the Royal Academy, London as did Wyton. Wyton was 23 years old when he was appointed chief engraver to the Royal Mint in 1815 and had designed at least 10 medals by this time. Wyton would have been well known as an alumnus at the Royal Academy so perhaps Claxton used Wyton's design as inspiration for the University seal.



University Seal, 1858 [G3_224_2723]



The Army Gold Medal, Identify Medals
<https://www.identifymedals.com/database/medals-by-country/great-britain-medals/the-army-gold-medal/>

World Wars Project Update

Research focussing on the university and the world wars continues with the extension of *Beyond 1939: The University of Sydney in the postwar world*, and the commencement of a national project studying the transformative effect of free national university education via the Commonwealth Reconstruction Training Scheme (CRTS) for ex-service men and women after World War II. Covid restrictions have had an impact on travel and the capacity to attend archive offices in person.

Liz Gillroy, University World Wars Project Officer

Beyond 1939

Generous funding from The Chancellor's Committee has permitted this project to continue into 2021, identifying and documenting the names of the thousands of men and women who served in any capacity in World War II and attended the university.

This project will create an online Book of Remembrance listing all contributors to WWII, thought to number close to 10,000. Similar in layout to *Beyond 1914*, there will be individual biographies and timelines for each person, along with relevant archival material such as student cards and photographs. To date the project has identified around 6500 names.

The development of a project website will allow for contributions from families and the broader community and is planned to be completed by the end of the year. It will profile the significant contributions that many of these graduates made to Australia's post-war recovery in the 1950s and to the growth of Australia's industry, economy, and community throughout the remainder of the twentieth century.

Universities & Postwar Recovery: The Commonwealth Reconstruction Training Scheme, 1943–1957 is a national project funded through the Australian Research Council. The project team includes Professor Julia Horne and Professor Stephen Garton, University of Sydney;

Professor Kate Darian-Smith, University of Tasmania; and Dr James Waghorne, University Melbourne.

From 1944 through to the late 1950s, around 275,000 ex-servicemen and women undertook Commonwealth-funded technical training or enrolled at Australian universities. Approximately 25,000 men and women completed a degree or a diploma at Australia's universities across a range of disciplines.

Thousands of records relating to NSW participants at the National Archives of Australia (NAA), were documented prior to lockdown and are now being analysed. Investigations have commenced into NAA records held in other states and student and information provided by archivists at the relevant national universities.

Recipients of the CRTS already identified are Jim McClelland, lawyer, ALP politician and judge; Margaret Blackwood, botanist, and geneticist; Talbot Duckmanton, General Manager of the ABC; and Samuel Ure-Smith, publisher. But what of the majority? Who were these men and women? What were their backgrounds and how did university change their future employment opportunities including entry into professions that may otherwise have been denied to them? Answering these questions guides our research focus.

This project will document in detail 6,500 ex-service men and women who participated in the national scheme

and analyse the worth of public investment in higher education across various fields of study.

Utilising the *Heurist* database, the team will develop a national listing of university-educated CRTS-funded men and women as an online archival and biographical collection, like *Beyond 1914*.

For further information on these projects or with details of students, staff and graduates of the university who may be eligible for inclusion on the database, contact elizabeth.gillroy@sydney.edu.au

Beyond 1914- the University of Sydney and the Great War continues to be maintained and new information added as received.

The image shows a CRTS training card for SW Marriott. The card is a complex form with multiple sections for personal details, course information, and training status. It includes fields for name, birth date, service number, and course details. The card is filled out with handwritten and typed information, including 'Architecture' as the course and 'Discontinued' as the reason for leaving the course.

1ST LETTER	SURNAME	2ND LETTER	FULL TIME - PART TIME	SERVICE AND SEX	CATEGORY	TYPE OF COURSE
M	MARRIOTT	S	W			
NAME MARRIOTT, S.W.			R.N. No. 336		DATE OF BIRTH 27.12.22	SEX M
XXXXXXXXXX			NATIONALITY A		TYPE OF COURSE Architecture	
TERMS ADDRESS: 0			DEPENDENTS 0		1ST COURSE M	
XXXXX			SERVICE No. 44,837		Number of other courses	
XXXXXXXXXX			SERVICE A RANK A1		PROPER <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INTERIM <input type="checkbox"/> REENTRY <input type="checkbox"/>	
XXXXXXXXXX			YEARS IN FORCES 2		QUALIFYING <input type="checkbox"/> AUTHORITY <input type="checkbox"/> U.C. <input type="checkbox"/>	
XXXXXXXXXX			YEAR OF DISCHARGE 29/1/48		COURSE CATEGORY 26 YEAR 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6	
APPLICATION 1/1/44 OFFER 12/1/45 ACCEPTANCE 16/1/45			XXXXXXXXXX		Benefits WITHDRAWN <input type="checkbox"/> COMPLETED 1/2/48	
TRANSFERS AFTER SELECTION INTERSTATE B/A <input type="checkbox"/> A/A <input type="checkbox"/>			OTHER TRAINING AUTHORITY B/A <input type="checkbox"/> A/A <input type="checkbox"/>		Course to which transferred	
Date COURSE PROPER COMMENCED 12/3/45			XXXXXXXXXX		DIPLOMA GAINED XXXXXXXX	
Other COURSE			Higher		DIPLOMA GAINED IN SAME COURSE	
COURSE Discontinued			REASON course not completed (Code 34)			
Cancelled - 1/4			Deferred A/S - B/A From To		1-4 years completed (C/S Proper) 6-3 3	
Suspended			Interrupted		Entered Loan Period	
Sick Leave (B450)			Pupilage Proper 22.9.45		Part-time Benefits Exhausted	
CHANGE IN TRAINING STATUS			From 10		Type Qual Training (P/T or F/T)	
					War Service Matriculation	
					Adult Matriculation	
					Training Institution	

CRTS training card of SW Marriott [NAA SP398 S5 Box 34 History cards of trainees]

Selected Accessions

September 2020 – August 2021

No	Title	Start Date	End Date
2021	Aerial views of the University (G74/3)	1932	1980
2492	Examination Papers, 2019–continuing	2019	
2581	Senate Building and Estates Committee (BEC) Minutes, agendas and papers, 2020	24/04/2020	28/10/2020
2582	Senate Finance and Audit Committee (FAC) / Senate Finance Committee (FC) Minutes, agendas and papers, 2020	26/03/2020	18/11/2020
2583	Senate Finance and Audit Investment Subcommittee (FAC IS) Minutes, agendas and papers, 2020	26/02/2020	25/11/2020
2584	Senate People and Culture Committee (PCC) Minutes, agendas and papers, 2020	03/02/2020	18/11/2020
2585	Senate People and Culture Remuneration Subcommittee (PCC RSC) Minutes, agendas and papers, 2020	31/03/2020	16/09/2020
2589	Academic Board Academic Quality Committee (AQC) Minutes, agendas and papers, 2020	21/01/2020	27/10/2020
2590	Academic Board HDR Examinations Subcommittee (HDRESC) Minutes, agendas and papers, 2020	28/01/2020	15/12/2020
2591	Academic Board Academic Standards and Policy Committee (ASPC) Minutes, agendas and papers, 2020	21/01/2020	27/10/2020
2592	Academic Board Admissions Subcommittee (ASC) Minutes, agendas and papers, 2020	16/01/2020	22/09/2020
2593	Academic Board Graduate Studies Committee (GSC) Minutes, agendas and papers, 2020	14/01/2020	20/10/2020
2594	Academic Board HDR Scholarships Subcommittee (HDRSC) Minutes, agendas and papers, 2020	07/02/2020	27/11/2020
2595	Academic Board Undergraduate Studies Committee (USC) Minutes, agendas and papers, 2020	14/01/2020	20/10/2020
2626	Academic Board Approved Handbook Resolutions 2020	2020	
2629	Academic Board Faculty Review–Faculty of Nursing and Midwifery 2009	01/07/2009	
2637	Decommissioned Wordvine newsletters	2010	2018
2640	Student pamphlets & newsletters	19/12/1967	17/10/1974
2642	The University Settlement – digitised images and digital copy of the Settlement book		
2643	Papers from the Graduate School of Business, University of Sydney	31/12/1987	31/12/1997
2644	Selected film reels migrated to digital format		
2645	School of Law & Sydney University Law Graduates Association (SULGA) records	1963	1997
2646	Publications		
2647	Ever Reaping Something New and 3 b&w photographs of Chemical department	01/05/1946	31/12/1985
2649	Graduation Ceremony Booklets January 2020 to 9 October 2020	20/01/2020	09/10/2020
2650	Two KDF 9 mini programming manuals		
2651	Academic Board Approved Handbook Resolutions 2021	2021	
2652	Additional Council and Finance Committee Agendas Minutes and Papers of International House (IH)	11/02/2011	14/12/2020
2653	The University of Sydney Annual Report 2018 & 2019	2018	2019
2654	Academic Board HDR Scholarships Subcommittee (HDRSSC) Minutes, agendas and papers, 2017	24/02/2017	08/12/2017
2655	Digitised selected volumes of Senate, Professorial Board and Building & Grounds volumes		
2656	Conservatorium of Music Digital Concert Programs	2020	
2657	Graduation Ceremony programs for December 2020	09/12/2020	11/12/2020
2658	Screenshots of Beyond 1914 Email Newsletters	01/04/2015	
2659	Archaeological Assessment for Rozelle Hospital Site and Callan Park		

Selected Accessions

September 2020 – August 2021

No	Title	Start Date	End Date
2660	Matriculation Requirements		
2661	Minute Books for the Engineering Centenary Committee and the Warren Centre for Advanced Engineering	22/11/1979	01/08/2008
2662	Copy of Graduation Programme for Graduands in Physiotherapy and of Valedictory Address by Lynella Nicol at 1964 Graduation	18/03/1964	18/03/1964
2663	Physiotherapy course papers	01/01/1961	30/01/1983
2664	Photograph of Fourth Year Engineering Students, 1913-1914 & The Warren Centre for Advanced Engineering Board of Directors, 6 December 2007	01/01/1913	06/12/2007
2665	Academic Board PhD Award Sub-Committee Agendas and Papers	07/02/2006	11/12/2007
2684	Warren Centre Board of Director Portraits and newsletters		
2685	Digitised access copies of G3/13 & G13/185 Administrative files		
2686	Yearbooks for the Sydney University Engineering Undergraduates Association and the School of Civil Engineering (S47)	01/01/1939	01/01/1995
2687	Djalkiri: Yolŋu art collaborations and collections edited by Rebecca Conway	27/02/2021	27/02/2021
2688	Charles Perkins Testamur	11/05/1966	
2689	Chinese Poem and Group Photograph of 1947 History 2	01/04/1947	31/05/1947
2691	John Connell – Development plans of the Kingdom of Tonga	01/01/1976	01/01/1991
2692	Graduation Booklets April 2021	14/04/2021	28/04/2021
2694	Photograph: The University of Sydney Field Day at Anchorfield, Darling Downs	05/11/1965	
2695	Colour slides of Wesley College; MacLaurin Hall & New Chemistry Building	01/02/1959	
2696	Selected Elkin and Camilla Wedgwood items digitised by the library		
2697	Lecture notes of third year students Bennie Jarvie and Edmund Haighton Stoney	08/03/1897	04/12/1897
2698	Digitised preservation copies from the personal archives of AP Elkin Series 11: item 128, and series 14: items 83 and 84		
2699	1897 BA Graduation photograph of Leopold Broinowski	01/05/1897	01/05/1897
2700	Images relating to a painting of the Institute for the Adult Deaf painted by Ron Wild	01/06/2021	01/06/2021
2701	History, Heraldry and Identity in the Stained Glass Windows at Sydney University	01/01/2021	01/06/2021
2703	The University of Sydney Annual Report 2020	01/01/2020	31/12/2020
2711	Pharmacology at the University of Sydney: A Brief History 1949 to 1999 deposited by Graham Johnston		
2712	Digitised editions of Record	01/01/1973	01/01/2020

General information

Established in 1954, the University Archives sits within Archives and Records Management Services, reporting to the Group Secretary, Office of General Counsel. The Archives retains the records of the Senate, the Academic Board and those of the many administrative offices which control the functions of the University of Sydney. It also holds the archival records of institutions which have amalgamated with the University, such as Sydney College of Advanced Education [and some of its predecessors including the Sydney Teachers College], Cumberland College of Health Sciences, Sydney College of the Arts and the Conservatorium of Music. The Archives also houses a collection of photographs of University interest, and University publications of all kinds. In addition, the Archives holds significant collections of the archives of persons and bodies closely associated with the University.

The reading room and repository are on the 9th floor of the Fisher Library, and the records are available by appointment for research use by all members of the University and by the general public. It is important to note that while housed within the Fisher Library, the Archives is not a part of the University Library and has different hours and conditions of use. Access to administrative records is governed by the *State Records Act 1998* [NSW], the *Health Records and Information Privacy Act 2002* [NSW] and *Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998* [NSW] and/or the *Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009* [NSW]. Restricted access conditions may apply to some records and photocopying of original records is not possible.

Contact details

Information on making an appointment online and visiting the Archives can be found at: <https://www.sydney.edu.au/archives/access-the-archives/visiting-the-archives.html>

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