



# Sydney Society for Scottish History



~ A Not-For-Profit cultural society ~

**FOUNDING PRESIDENT** 1985-2014 – Malcolm Broun OAM QC

*Sydney Grammar School is the new venue for meetings of the Sydney Society for Scottish History. Come along and help extend the lively spirit of enquiry created by Malcolm in his Chambers. Meetings commence at 7pm in the "Edmund Barton Room" which holds fond associations with Malcolm, an Old Sydeian, whose Chambers were also of the same name.*

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**PATRON:** Prof. Em. Edward J. Cowan FRSE  
*Professor Emeritus of Scottish History and Literature,  
University of Glasgow*

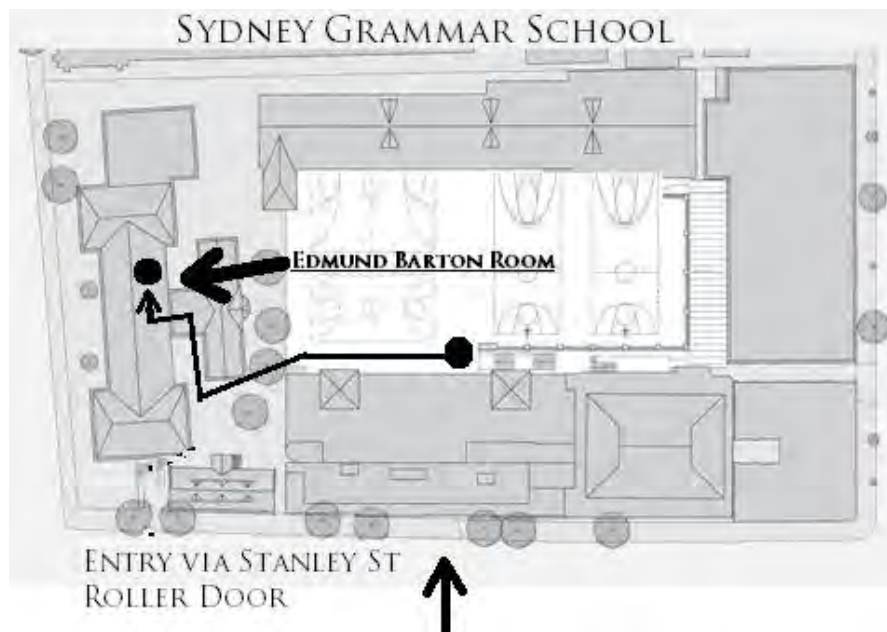
**PRESIDENT:** Dr Matthew Glozier PhD FRHistS  
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Venue:

*Edmund Barton Room  
Sydney Grammar School  
10-12 College St  
Darlinghurst NSW 2010*

*(parking available in Middle  
Playground – enter via Stanley  
St roller door)*



**NEXT MEETING:**

**JUNE**



Time: 7:00 pm, Thursday, 18<sup>th</sup> June, 2015  
Speaker: Prof. Ann Curthoys  
Topic: "Scots settlers and Aborigines"

Ann Curthoys is an honorary professor in History at the University of Sydney who has written widely in Australian history and on questions of history and theory. Her books include *Freedom Ride: A Freedom Rider Remembers* and (with John Docker) *Is History Fiction?* She is currently writing with Jessie Mitchell a book to be called *Taking Liberty: How Settlers in the Australian Colonies gained Self-Government and Indigenous Peoples lost it*.

*Abstract:*

We can tell the history of Scottish migration to colonial Australia in many ways. One we might call a Pioneer Story, which emphasises the Scots' motivations, struggles, and personal and group qualities in a powerful story of migration from one end of the world to another. There is another history, however, which this Pioneer Story encounters and that is the tragic history of Aboriginal dispossession, displacement and replacement, in the course of British settlement. It is a story of violence and great loss of life, and the destruction of whole societies as British settlers fought to secure their hold on the land. These two stories do not sit well together, and yet, of course, they are connected.

This talk explores the connections between Scottish and Indigenous people in colonial Australia, focussing especially on the Eastern colonies for the period from the late 1830s to the late 1870s, when Scottish migration to the colonies surged and also when pastoral expansion was at its height. Key figures I will be looking at include the explorer Thomas Mitchell, 'Piper', pastoralists Niel Black, Angus McMillan, Evan Mackenzie, and the Archer brothers, writers Katherine Kirkland and Mary McConnel, newspaper editor and politician Thomas McCombie, missionary John Green, and perhaps most significant of all, Presbyterian minister, editor, and writer John Dunmore Lang.

<b>COMING EVENTS:</b>
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***JULY***



Time: 7:00 pm, Thursday, 16<sup>th</sup> July, 2015  
Speaker: Emeritus Professor Eric Richards (Flinders University)  
Topic: "The St Kilda migration to Australia in the 1850s"

*Abstract:*

***AUGUST***



Time: 7:00 pm, Thursday, 20<sup>th</sup> August, 2015  
Speaker: Mr Robert Nash (Huguenot Society of Australia)  
Topic: "The Huguenots in Scotland"

*Abstract:*

## **SEPTEMBER**



Time: 7:00 pm, Thursday, 17<sup>th</sup> September, 2015  
Speaker: Mr Paul Wagner  
Topic: “Claymore! The Martial Arts of the Highland Warrior”

*Abstract:* While all of us are familiar with the concept of eastern martial arts, few people realize that the west also had a wide variety of martial arts every bit as complex and effective as those developed elsewhere in the world. Fortunately, a number of period sources survive that can give us an insight into the way in which ancient weapons were wielded, and over 100 works on “the Art of Defence,” from where derive the word “fencing,” or the “Arts of Mars” (from where we derive the term “Martial Art”) were published before 1620, and many hundreds after that date. One of the richest traditions of European swordsmanship is that of the Highland Broadsword, with a dozen or so manuals recording the fundamental principles of Scottish swordsmanship from the late 17<sup>th</sup> century onwards. This talk will provide a brief introduction to the use of the various weapons used by the 18<sup>th</sup> century Highlander, as recorded by period fencing manuals.

## **OCTOBER**



Time: 7:00 pm, Thursday, 15<sup>th</sup> October, 2015  
Speaker: Stephen Szabo FSAScot  
Topic: “The Heraldry of Alexander Macleay and His Kin”

*Abstract:*

**NOVEMBER – no meeting at Grammar**

## **DECEMBER**

Time: 7:00 pm, Thursday, 17<sup>th</sup> December, 2015  
Speaker: Callum’s Ceilidh  
Topic: Christmas celebration

*Abstract:*