

# History @ Willoughby

HISTORY WEEK 2016  
**NEIGHBOURS**  
— 3-11 SEPTEMBER 2016 —  
[www.historyweek.com.au](http://www.historyweek.com.au)

## The people of WILLOUGHBY

Reflections  
on the 150  
years of growth  
and development  
of a community.



*Armenian folk dancers performing at the  
Willoughby Fun Fair 1982*



*Northbridge Swimming Club Polo Team, 1930-31*



*Willoughby Musical Society's production of 'The Quaker  
Girl', Willoughby Town Hall, 1968*

In 1865 there were approximately 400 people living in the Willoughby area; 150 years later the populace had increased to 76,354. By examining demographics discover the individual and group changes that have produced a modern and varied community.



historycouncilnsw

A Willoughby Library Exhibition — open during Library hours  
Chatswood Library on The Concourse from Friday 9 September 2016

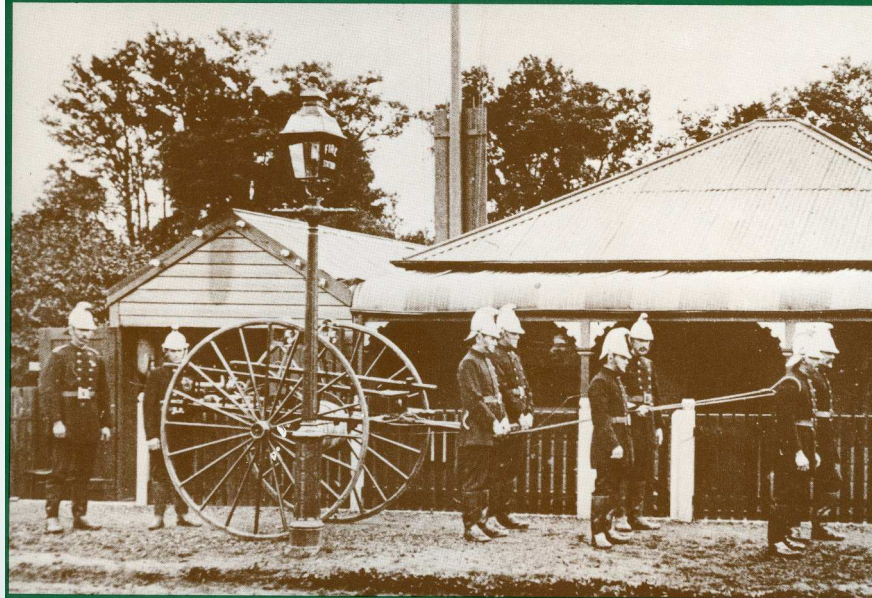
The images used in this display are from Willoughby Library's online image library,  
Picture Willoughby, at [photosau.com.au/willoughby/scripts/home.asp](http://photosau.com.au/willoughby/scripts/home.asp)



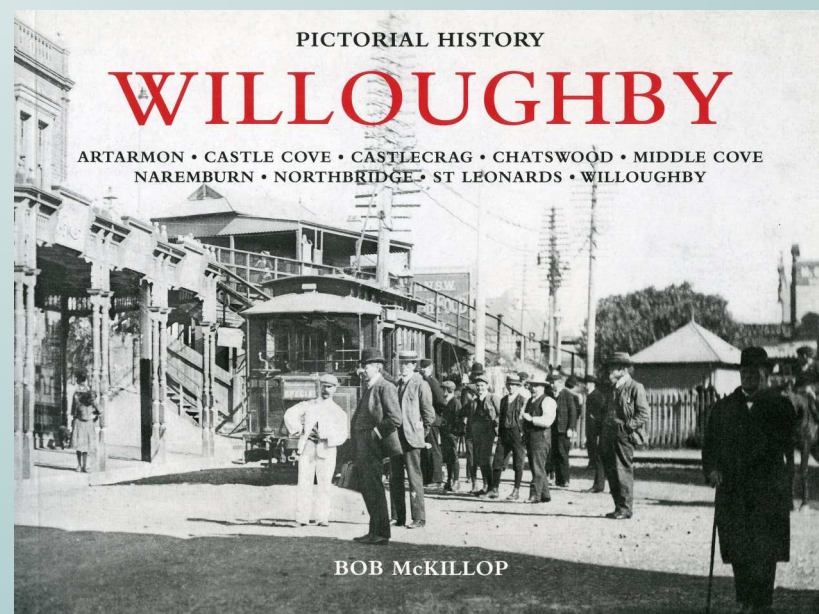


## “THE GOOD OLD DAYS”

Reminiscences of early  
Chatswood and Willoughby



*Edited by Valmai Phillips*



## The Census in Australia

**1828:** Australia's first census was held November 1828 in the colony of New South Wales.

**1833 – 1881:** Censuses were held simultaneously in each of the colonies.

**1901:** The census held during the first year of Federation, 1901, was again collected by each State separately.

**1911:** The first national census was developed by the Commonwealth Bureau of Census and Statistics. Area, population and occupied dwellings in NSW Counties were given. In the case of Willoughby Municipality the County of Cumberland was only listed.

Subsequent censuses were held in 1921, 1933, 1947, 1954 and 1961. In 1961 the five-year period was introduced and held in 1971, 1976, 1981, 1986, 1991, 1996, 2001, 2006, 2011 and 2016.

The *Census and Statistics Act 1905* (Commonwealth) led to the 1906 establishment of the Commonwealth Bureau of Census and Statistics (CBCS). The Bureau was renamed the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) in 1975.

**This exhibition uses the Census statistics to illustrate some of the trends in the Willoughby neighbourhood.**



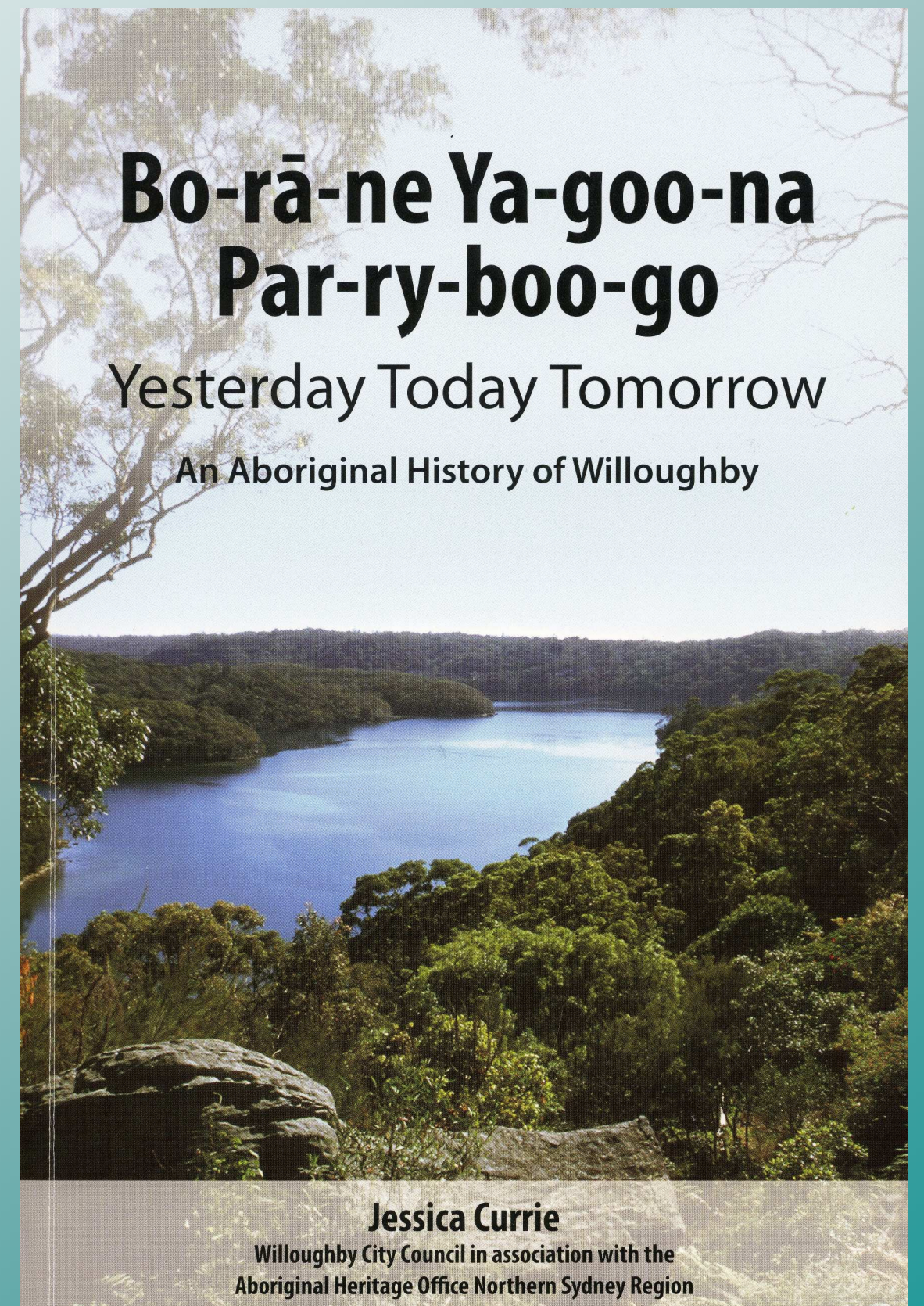
# THE FIRST PEOPLE

## Original lifestyle changed forever

When the first fleet arrived in Sydney in 1788 the Cammeraygal family group belonging to the *Guringai* Tribe roamed the lower North Shore area and fished along the foreshores of Middle Harbour. By the following year it has been estimated that about half the Aborigines in the Sydney area had caught smallpox and died. By the 1830s there were no Aboriginal communities living a traditional lifestyle in the North Shore area.

Aboriginal rock carvings and paintings can still be found in secluded areas within Willoughby City. In the below photograph the carvings have been highlighted

In the Census of 2011 133 Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islanders were listed as residents within Willoughby City.





# THE EARLY RESIDENTS

## Landowners came, went & some stayed

**1810: William Gore**, Provost Marshal, received a land grant of 150 acres and named his farm Artarmon.

**1828: Maria Brown nee Hitchcock** received a land grant of 160 acres. With husband, George, she established Brown's Farm near today's Mowbray Road and Victoria Avenue area.

**1830: Richard Archbold**, convict /clerk /teacher, took over a grant of 400 acres north of today's Boundary Street and with his wife cultivated an orchard.

**1840s: William Henry** established a farm and orchards "Millwood" near Lane Cove River.

**1860s: John Bryson**, alderman, purchased land in Chatswood West where he built a house for his family.

**Early 1860's: Henry Hocken Bligh**, solicitor and Mayor of North Willoughby, and family were the first residents of North-bridge.

**1882: Chen Ah Tek** and his team of Chinese market gardeners were the first residents on the Middle Cove peninsula.

**1868: Joseph Hammond**, butcher, set up farm and slaughter yard near today's Beauchamp Park.

**Early 1900s: Henry Willis** and family were the first permanent residents on the Caste Cove peninsula.

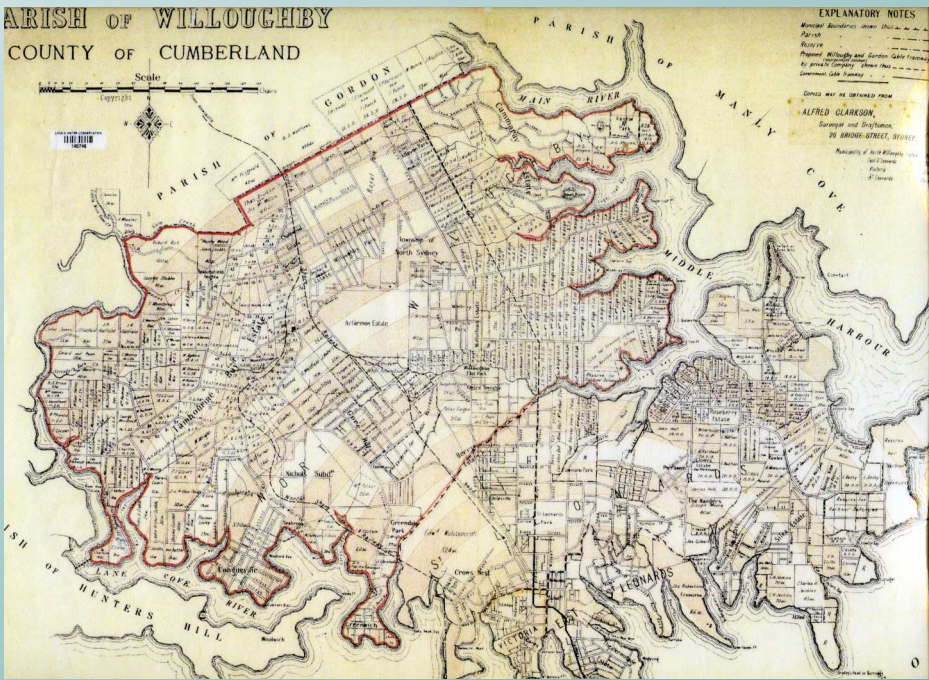
**Early 1904s: Joseph Knight Smith**, alderman and licensee of Hotel Willoughby, bought into the first Estate in Castlecrag to be subdivided. He built the Municipality's first public swimming baths on his land in 1905.

The interval between 1861 and 1871 was marked by the incorporation of ten municipalities, in the next decade eight more were constituted, and still another eight in the interval between 1881 and 1891, so that at the date of the last census only 472 persons comprised the population dwelling in unincorporated districts. This, of course, does not include the islands of Port Jackson, which are not subject to municipal government.

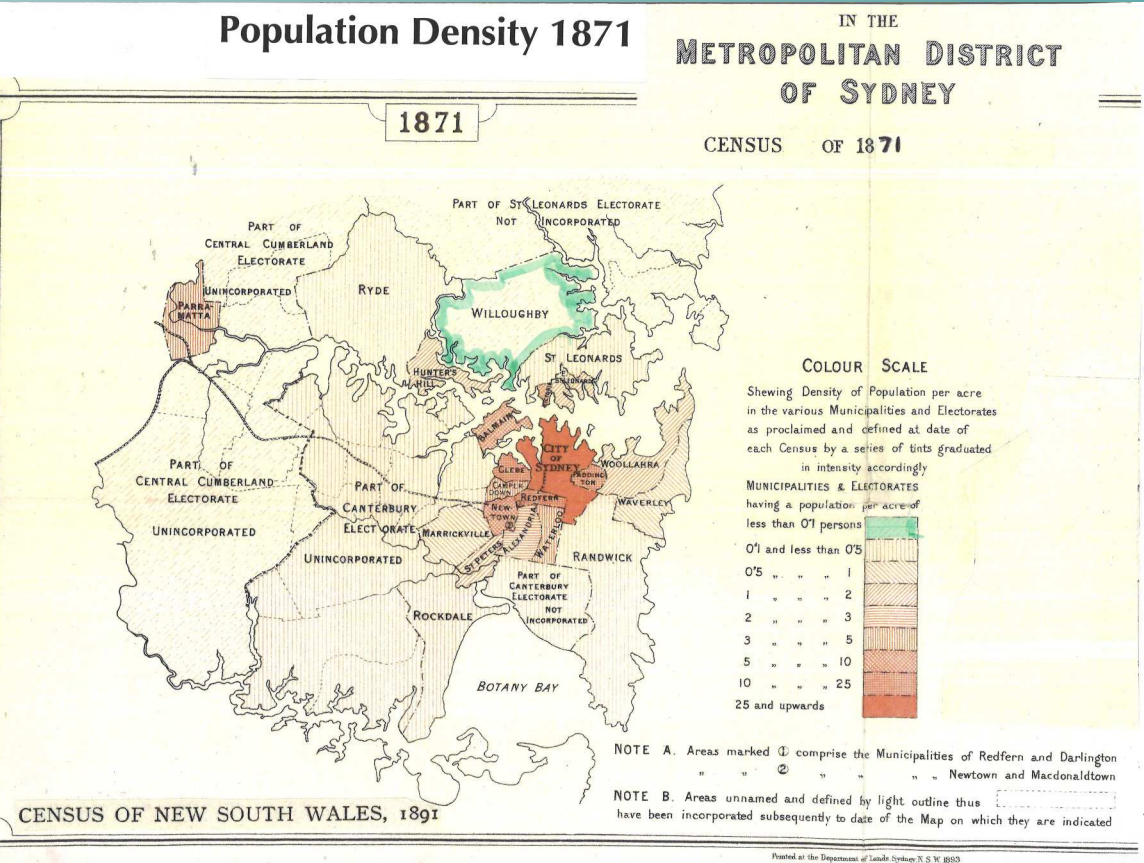
City of Sydney and Suburbs.	1861.	1871.	1881.	1891.
City of Sydney .....	56,304	74,423	99,857	106,938
Islands in Port Jackson .....	446	143	295	714
Total, City of Sydney ..	56,840	74,566	100,152	107,652
Suburbs (Municipalities)—				
Alexandria .....		2,123	3,449	7,505
Ashfield .....			4,087	11,697
Balmain .....	3,482	6,272	15,063	23,475
Botany .....				2,080
Botany, North .....				2,407
Burwood .....			2,472	6,227
Camperdown .....		1,950	3,522	6,658
Canterbury .....			1,175	2,426
Concord .....				2,107
Darlington .....		1,398	2,026	3,465
Drummoyne .....				1,451
Enfield .....				2,050
Five Dock .....				1,250
Glebe .....	3,712	5,721	10,500	17,075
Hunter's Hill .....	479	1,425	2,282	3,632
Hurstville .....				3,175
Kogarah .....				2,328
Leichhardt .....			1,866	17,067
Macdonaldtown .....			1,470	5,275
Manly .....			1,327	3,236
Marrickville .....		1,464	3,501	13,507
Newtown .....		4,328	8,327	17,870
North Sydney—				
St. Leonards .....	1,384	997	2,647	17,106
St. Leonards East .....	902	941	2,320	
Victoria .....	1,128	1,128	2,182	
Paddington .....	2,692	4,250	9,608	18,392
Petersham .....			3,413	10,399
Randwick .....	810	1,739	2,079	6,236
Redfern .....	3,084	6,616	10,868	21,322
Rockdale (Botany West) .....			764	4,908
Ryde .....		1,461	1,673	3,225
St. Peters .....		1,242	2,272	4,800
Sydneyfield .....				1,820
Waterloo .....	1,222	2,988	5,762	8,701
Waverley .....	891	1,377	2,365	8,842
Willoughby, North .....			1,411	3,411
Woollahra .....	2,106	4,961	6,168	10,923
Total, Suburban Municipalities .....	21,214	52,348	115,981	275,159
Suburbs—unincorporated .....	17,735	10,382	8,806	Homebush, 472
Total, Suburbs .....	38,949	63,210	124,787	275,631
Total, City and Suburbs .....	95,789	137,776	224,939	383,283

CENSUS OF NEW SOUTH WALES, 1891.

## North Willoughby Municipality population 1871, 1881 and 1891



Willoughby parish landforms and land grants, 1840s





# THE EARLY RESIDENTS



George Baldry and family cleared and stumped Victoria Avenue in the 1880s and are regarded as the pioneers of Chatswood. The family pictured here outside their timber cottage in Baldry Street, 1900s.



Richard Harnett is pictured at the reigns of a carriage with his wife "Chatty" in the rear, 1880s. He was a leading landowner on the Lower North Shore and became an alderman of Willoughby.



James Forsyth opened the first tannery in Willoughby in the 1870s. His family went onto become significant contributors to the community as property developers and aldermen.



# THE FIRST ACTIVISTS

## Establishing order

In May 1865 there were approximately 400 residents in the Rural District of Willoughby on the north shore of the Harbour of Port Jackson. A petition by 67 resident citizens was sent to Governor, Sir John Young, praying for the incorporation of the Municipality of Willoughby.

Their pray was granted on 25<sup>th</sup> October 1865 and the Municipality of North Willoughby was formed

The signatories were:

T. C. Ludowice ✓	James Medlyn
William Smith	John Collins
John Boyle	Andrew Smith
Thomas M'Clelend	William Martin
Albert Ratke	G. H. Chalk
James Reid	James Bereyen
Edwin Rannard	Henry Russell
James Snow	John Scholfield
William Pollard	William Donnelly
Richard Horsley ✓	T. T. Allard
George Woolland	George Jones
Hugh Haron	Peter Corkin
Alexander Casher	James Mills
Francis Bellman	David Etherington
George Trickett	Alexander Wallace
John Jones	Smith Bennet
Michael Smith	B. Carnett
Thomas Adamson	Joseph Cox
Richard Johnson ✓	John Cropley
Jacob Holland	Donald Carmichael
Thomas Foote, senior	Joane Howard
Thomas Foote, junior	John Williams
Francis Stack	George Green
William Purnell	Heinrich Kulman
H. H. Bligh	John Rogers
Emuel Dew	Edward Anderson
William Watts	Thomas Connelly
Jethro John Pearse	Charles Andie
William Reynolds	Connell Linsley
John M'Millan	James Cook
John Armitage	Edward Lee
Edward Carr	Matthew Simpson
Timothy Cuick	James French.
James Welch	



Mayor, Aldermen and Town Clerk for Municipality of North Willoughby, 1901



# CHANGING POPULATION

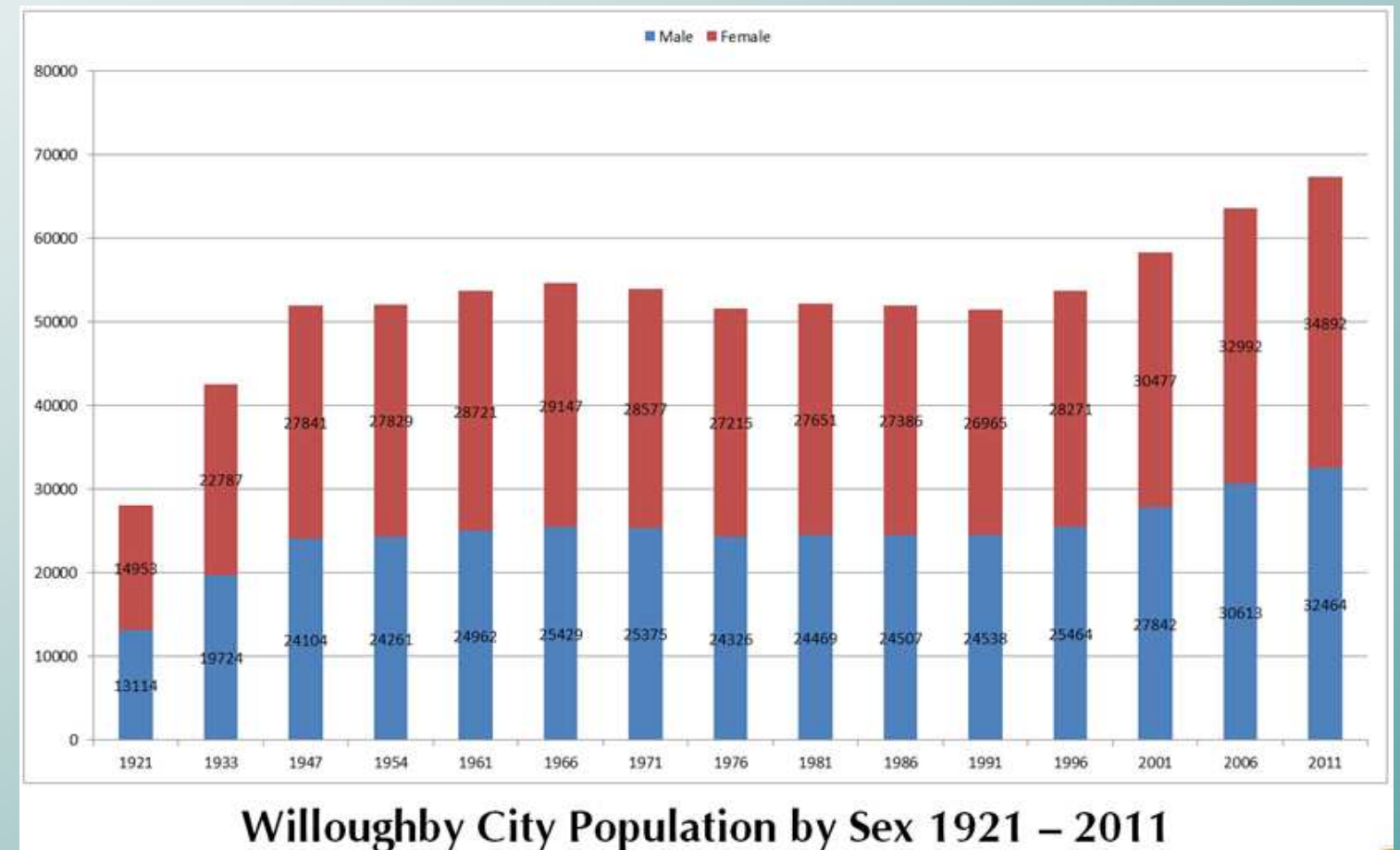
## A community's population develops

Little development occurred in Willoughby until the 1850s due to lack of accessibility by road or water. In the 1880s and 1890s residential subdivision and growth occurred with bridges being built and roads improved. Growth in Chatswood was aided by the opening of the North Shore railway line in 1889 and with the opening of the Sydney Harbour Bridge in 1932.

In 1948 the County of Cumberland Planning Scheme recommended that Chatswood become a District centre and in the 1960s Chatswood was designated as a regional centre.

Social plans developed during 1999 produced significant redevelopment in Chatswood Town Centre including residential. Chatswood has become a “hot spot” for population growth with higher density developments opening the door to movement into the suburb.

Despite the development of extended transportation links within Willoughby the area has retained a whole range of quality of life amenities that appeal to a diverse range of people.





# CHANGING POPULATION



A children's party held at the Willoughby Town Hall, 1900s.



A ball held at the School of Arts possibly for Federation 1901.  
Notice that only the British Flag is used as decoration.



Church Picnic in Northbridge to raise money for the building of a new Church.



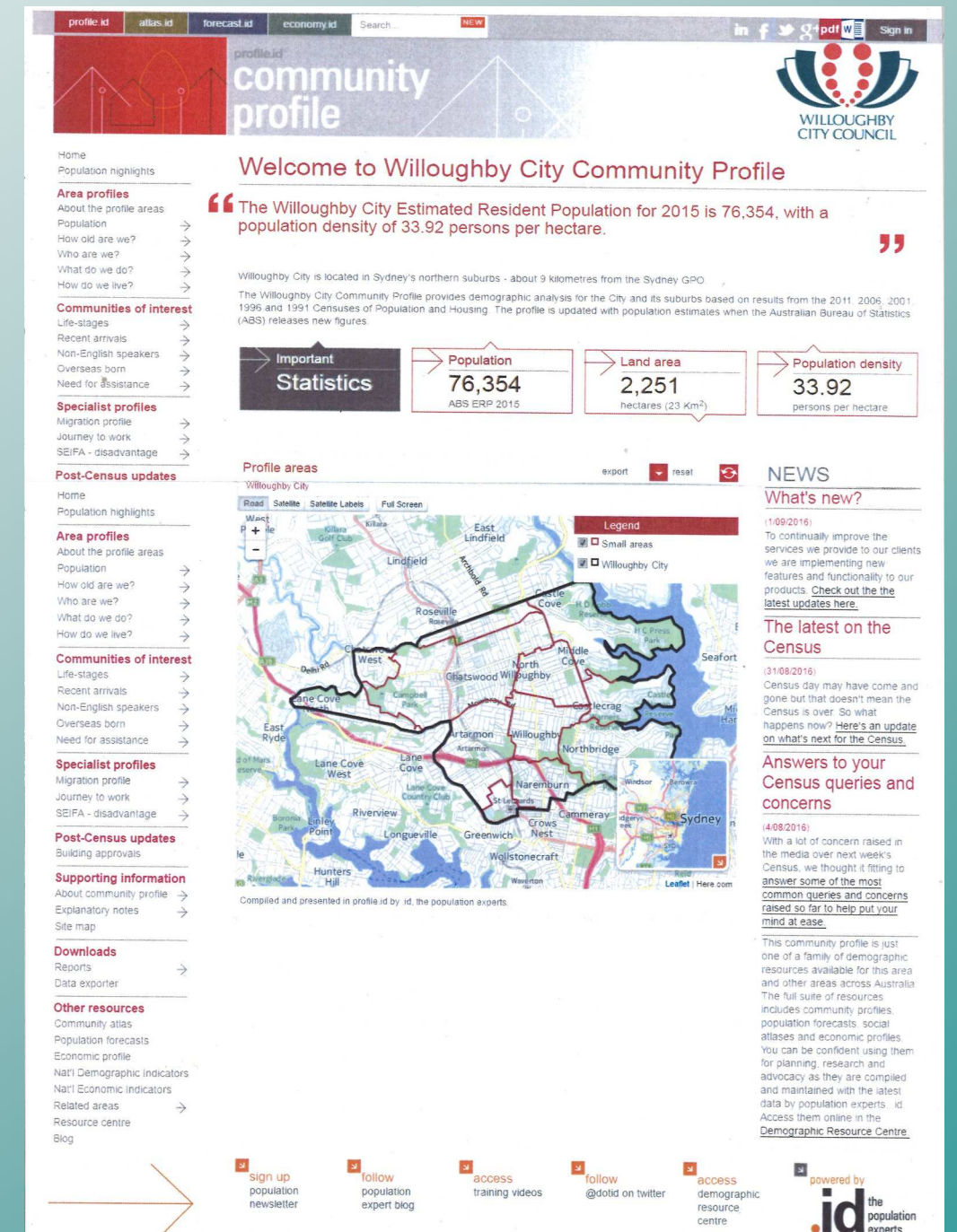
# CHANGING POPULATION



“The Cubby House” Naremburn After School Centre, Naremburn Public School, 1980s. The School closed in 1990.



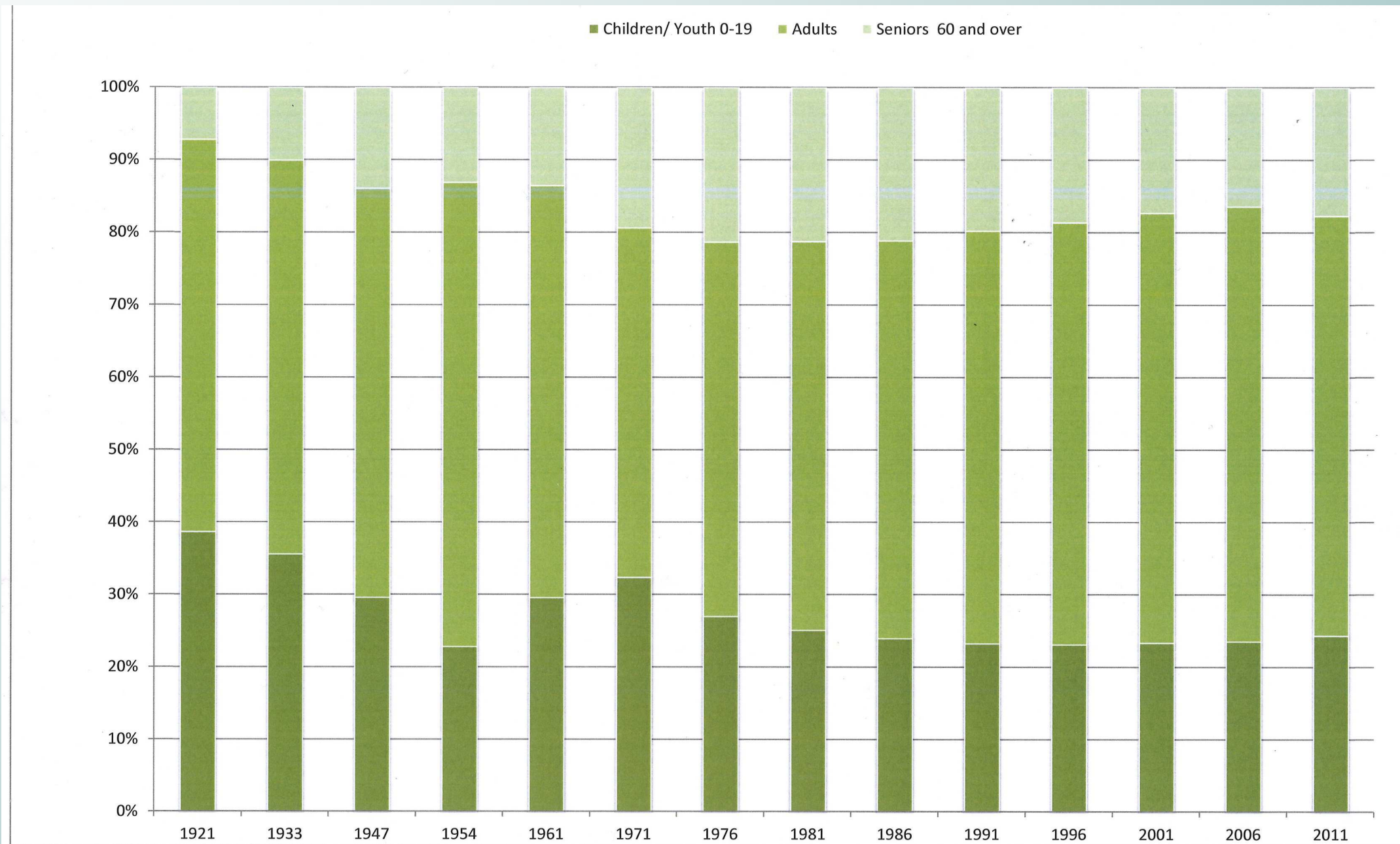
Artarmon Station subway Mural Project co-ordinated by artist Malcolm King involving youth volunteers, 1982.



Willoughby area statistics are available on the Willoughby City Webpage under the “About Council” dropdown menu. Keep a look out for 2016 Census results.



# THE GENERATIONS



**Willoughby population by age group percentage of total population 1921 - 2011**



# THE GENERATIONS

## The older generation

Community clubs and facilities provide structure for a community to support its residents and improve their quality of life especially important for seniors.

1918	<i>Chatswood - Willoughby RSL Sub-Branch</i>
1939	Garden of Remembrance: commemorating those who served in wars
1948	<i>Rotary Club of Chatswood. 1961: Rotary Club of Willoughby; 1972: Rotary Club of Artarmon; 1983: Rotary Club of Northbridge</i>
1949	Australian Legion of Ex-Servicemen and Women Sub-branch
1950s	Chatswood Apex Club. There was also a Middle Harbour Apex Club
1958	Willoughby Legion Recreation and Bowling Club
1969	Willoughby Legion Ex-Services Club. Renamed Club Willoughby
1970-2016	Friendship and Craft Club. Formerly the Fifty Plus Club
1970s	Quota Club of The North Shore
1981	Probus Club of Chatswood. By 2006 there were 8 Probus Clubs in the Willoughby District
1982	Centre for Leisure Activity in Northbridge
1983	Northbridge Quilters
1983	Rotary Club of Northbridge
1989	Dougherty Apartments for the retired, aged and disabled: joint venture between Willoughby City Council, the NSW Department of Housing and the Uniting
1989	Willoughby Retirement Community Association
2007	Willoughby Community Men's Shed



Croquet at the Senior Citizen's Centre at Chatswood. It was established by Chatswood Rotary Club which was erected and housed on Council land (now Chatswood Chase) in 1958.



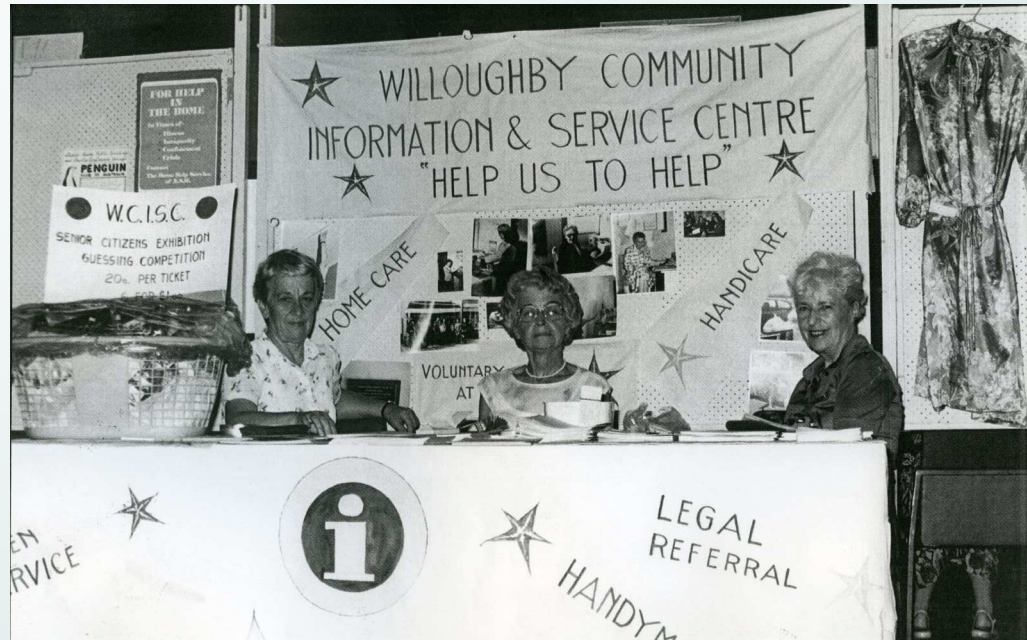
Turning of the first sod for the Dougherty Housing and Community Centre, a joint venture between Willoughby City Council, NSW Dept of Housing and Uniting Church with Mayor Reidy.





# THE GENERATIONS

## Survivors of the Great War



One of the many volunteer community services that have sprung up in the Willoughby area, 1960s.



Volunteers preparing meals for Meal-on- Wheels delivery at Senior Citizen's Club, 1960s.



The 1933 Census listed the number of residents who served abroad with the Australian Forces in the War of 1914 -1919.

The Municipalities with 1000+ residents:

Municipalities	Males	Females
Sydney	3915	43
Canterbury	3232	12
Randwick	3266	66
Waverley	1945	10
Willoughby	1844	23
North Sydney	1760	38
Rockdale	1335	3
Woollahra	1255	26
Marrickville	1244	6
Ashfield	1159	19
Kogarah	1106	6
Ryde	1129	4
Ku-ring-gai	1158	28
Concord	1055	6
Leichhardt	1105	1
Drummoyne	1000	3
Paddington	1000	4



# THE GENERATIONS



Opening of the Chatswood Skate Park in Chatswood Oval in 2001.



A performance of the Willoughby Youth Theatre in the early 1990s.



School 2A at Naremburn Public School, 1930s.



Physical Education class at the Methodist Church, Northbridge, 1950s.

## The younger generation

The Willoughby community has provided services and facilities for its children and youth through community volunteer action and fundraising or Council endeavours.

**Boy Scouts' Association and Girl Guides' Association** have been well represented in the city. In 1965 there were over 900 members in all levels including sea scouts.

**Baby Health Care Centres** have been available since the 1940s.

**Children's Libraries** run by volunteers were established in the 1940 before the library services were funded by Council.

**Small private schools** were established early and continued for a time after the Government schools were formed. The first school in the area was established in 1862 by Eliza Davies - Bethany Bush School – and located in Penshurst Street.

A **Youth Centre** was established at Willoughby Park Centre in 1954 with community fundraising. Initially the Centre provided youth and children's activities such as gymnasium, pre-school and facilities for clubs such as Willoughby Girl's Marching Association. It now provides activities for all the community.

**Chatswood Youth Centre** was established in and Council has recently established the Willoughby Youth Action Group.

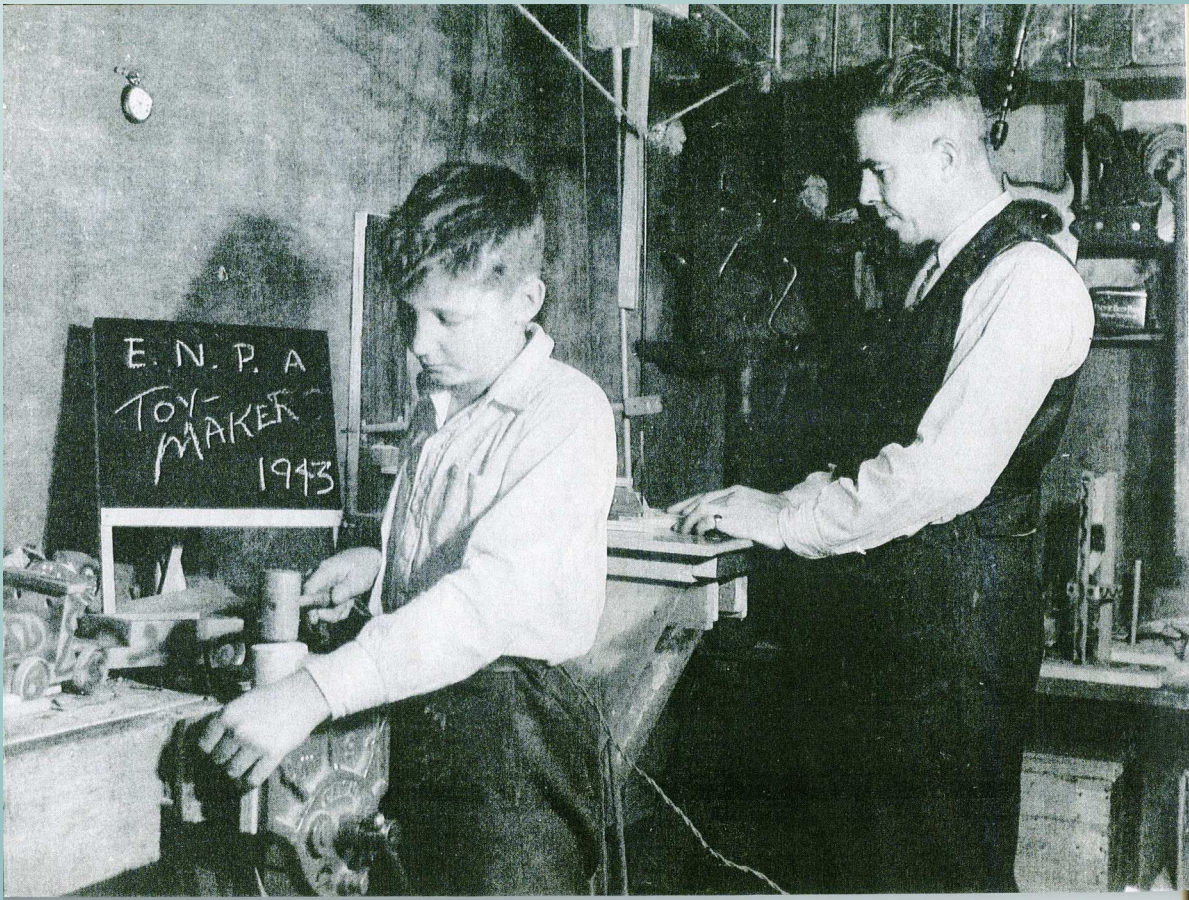


# COMMUNITY ADVOCATES

## Working for the community

Progress associations are local resident associations, owned and run by their members. Willoughby has a long history of resident involvement in improving the local amenities and protecting heritage for all residents

1901	Naremburn Progress Association
1914	Artarmon and District Progress Association. Later becoming Artarmon Progress Association
1919	Northbridge Progress Association
1925	Castlecrag Progress Association
1925	Middle Harbour Progress Association later named Middle Harbour - Willoughby Progress Association
1930	West Ward Progress Association. Later named Chatswood West Ward Progress Association
1936 - 1950s	East Northbridge Progress Association amalgamated with Northbridge Progress Association
Late 1930s – early 1940s, 1993	Federation of Progress Associations became defunct during World War II. Reformed in 1993 under the name Federation of Willoughby Progress Association.
1952 - 1955	Castle Cove-East Roseville Progress Association
1961	Chatswood East Side Progress Association
1974	Willoughby District Historical Society
1997	Willoughby South Progress Association



East Northbridge Progress Association providing activities for children, 1943.



# COMMUNITY ADVOCATES

## A community working together

In addition to the progress associations Willoughby had many other associations that provided support and action for social services, amenities, businesses and heritage both natural and built environments in the area. Over the time various committees, groups and associations have been formed and disbanded. All major charities have had representations in Willoughby.

In the early 20<sup>th</sup> Century small private hospitals, nursing and convalescent homes were spread throughout the district.

1920s	Chatswood Chamber of Commerce. By 2015 there were 4 Chambers of Commerce in Willoughby
1940	Northbridge Volunteer Defence Corps Association
1947	Naremburn Amenities Development Association
1957	Inner Wheel Club
1959	North Sydney Business & Professional Women's Club
1970s	Castle Cove Community Committee
1970s	Citizen of the Year Award by Willoughby Council
1976	Flat Rock Area Conservation Action Society
1979	Friends of Gore Hill Cemetery
1979-2004	Friends of the Library
Early 1980s	Concerned Chatswood Citizens Committee
1982	Willoughby Environmental Protection Association
1983	Castlecrag Conservation Society
1988	Walter Burley Griffin Society
1996	Willoughby Heritage Awards given by Willoughby Council
2011	<b>Chatswood Executive Business Lions Club.</b> There was a previous Middle Harbour Lions Club



Artarmon Junior Library was established in 1958. The library started at a different site in 1944 and was run by volunteers until it was incorporated into the Willoughby Council library services in 1975.



Save the Park Rally with NSW MP for Willoughby, Peter Collins giving a speech , 1990s



Bush Program volunteers removing weeds in bush in Willoughby, 2000s.



Laying the Foundation stone of the Chatswood Congregational Centenary Church in Anderson Street, March 1933.



# THE COMMUNITY SPIRIT



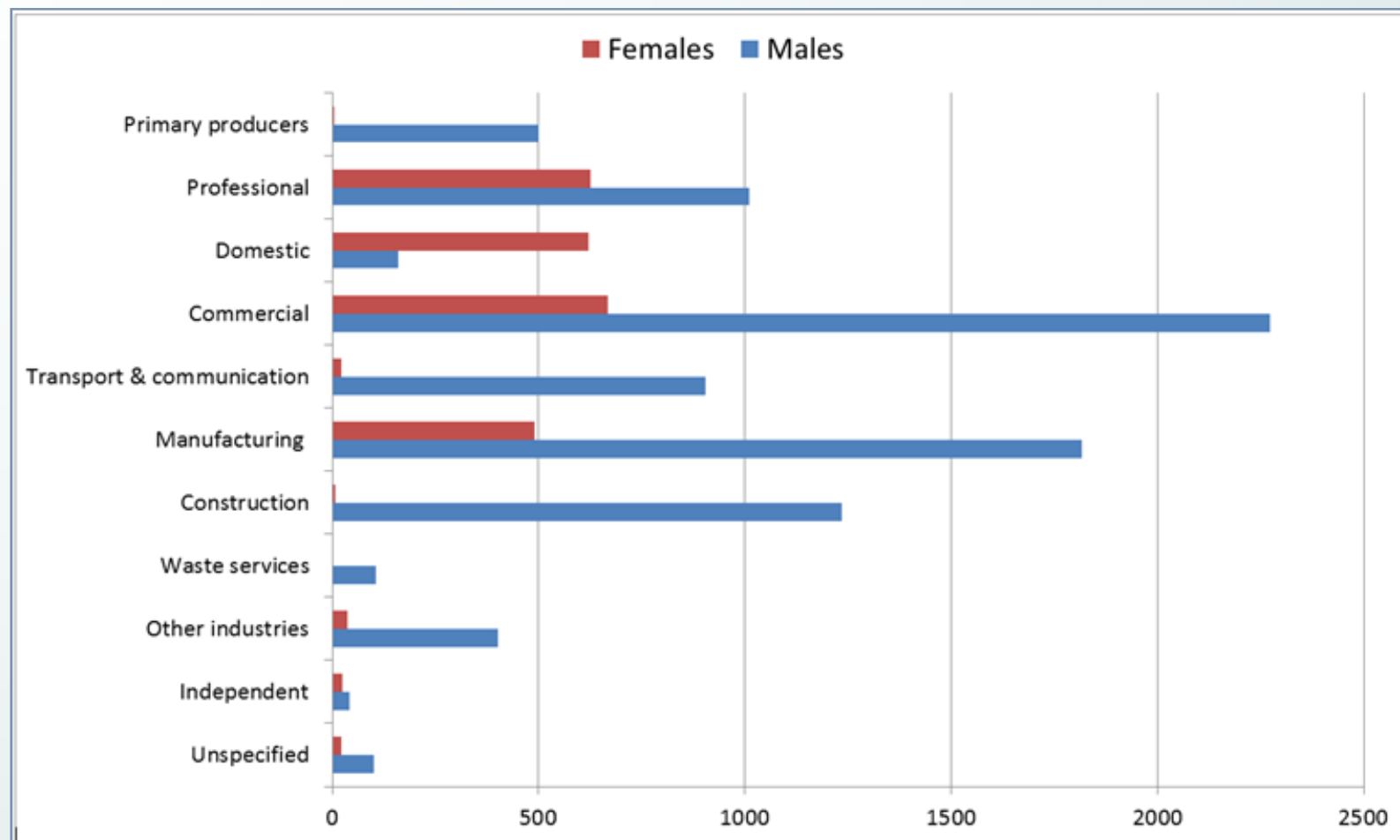
Return Services League, Chatswood Sub Branch  
75th Anniversary 1994 specially brewed beer.



Rotary Club of Chatswood regalia. The club was started in 1948.



# WORKING POPULATION



## Finding work in the community

The early industries in the Willoughby district were timber getting, orchards, market gardens and dairies. Quarries, brickworks, tanneries, pottery followed with small manufacturing factories developing later.

During the 1930s Depression years' major Infrastructure projects were established in Willoughby. Funding was received from the state government as a result of the Prevention and Relief of Unemployment Act. Act no. 34, 1930. Many of the local residents would have been employed on these projects such as road construction, improving Gore Hill Oval, forming Northbridge Golf Links and building the Willoughby Incinerator.

With the closures of the early industries in the 1940s-1950s light industries took over. The former brickwork area of Artarmon/Gore Hill was zoned as an industrial area under the Cumberland County.

Today Willoughby also offers employment in the retail, commercial and high-tech industries such as film and television production.



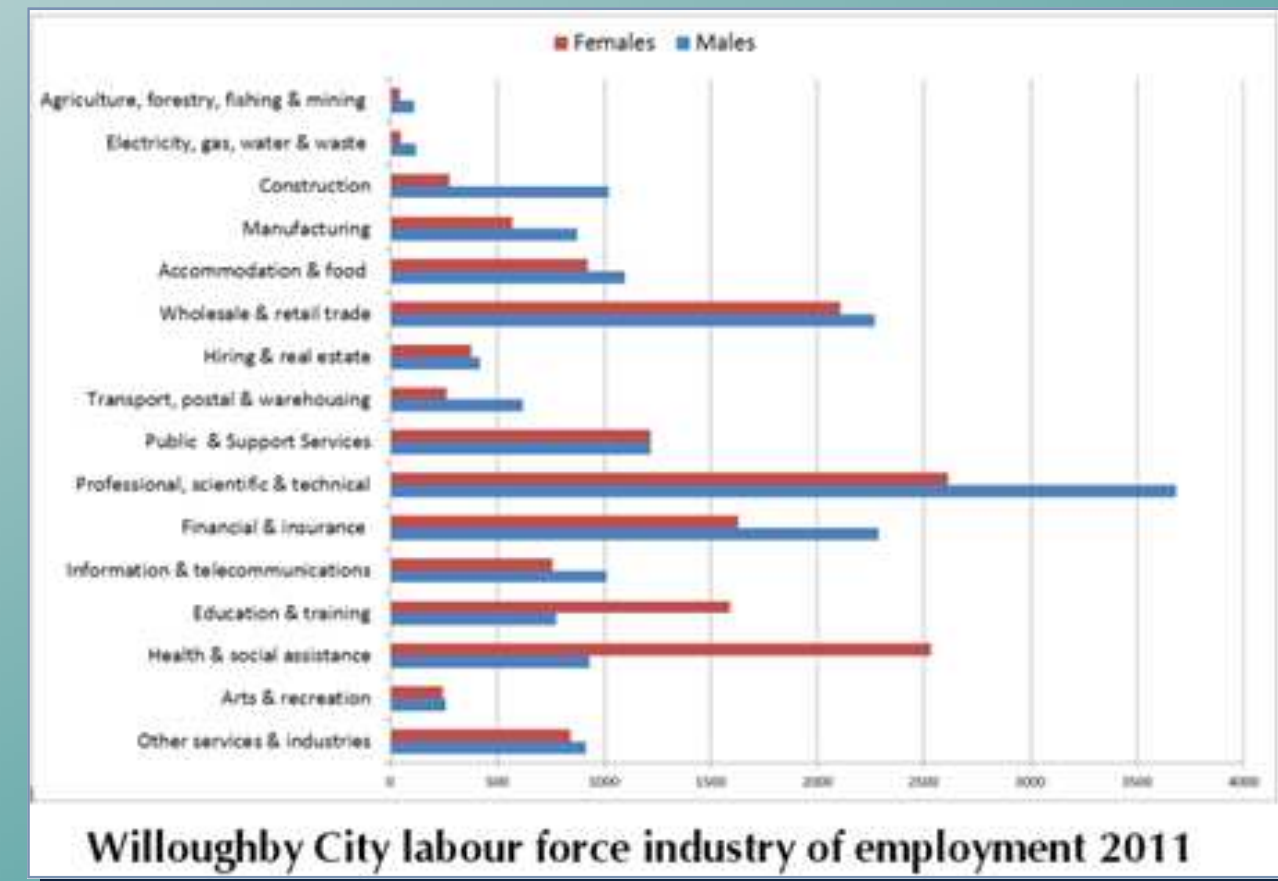
Workers at the Horsley Tannery in Willoughby, 1900s



# WORKING POPULATION

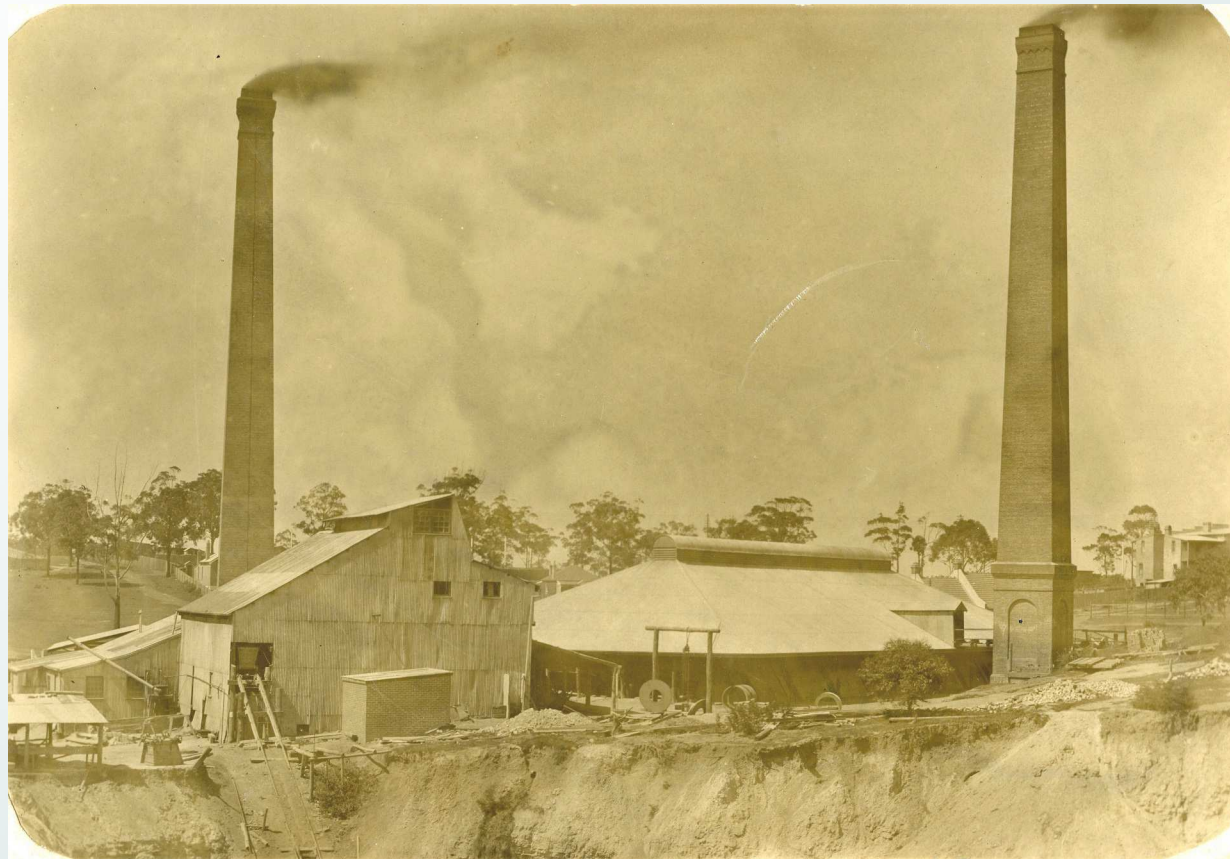


Workers at Mashman Pottery in Chatswood, 1890s.

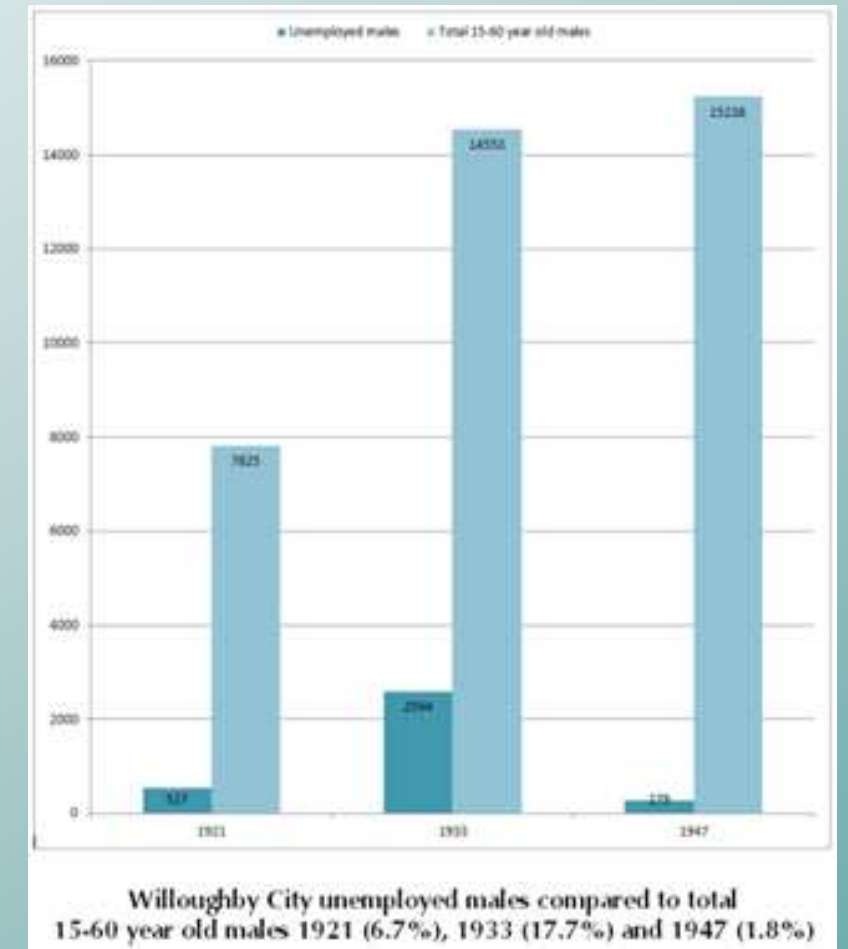




# WORKING POPULATION



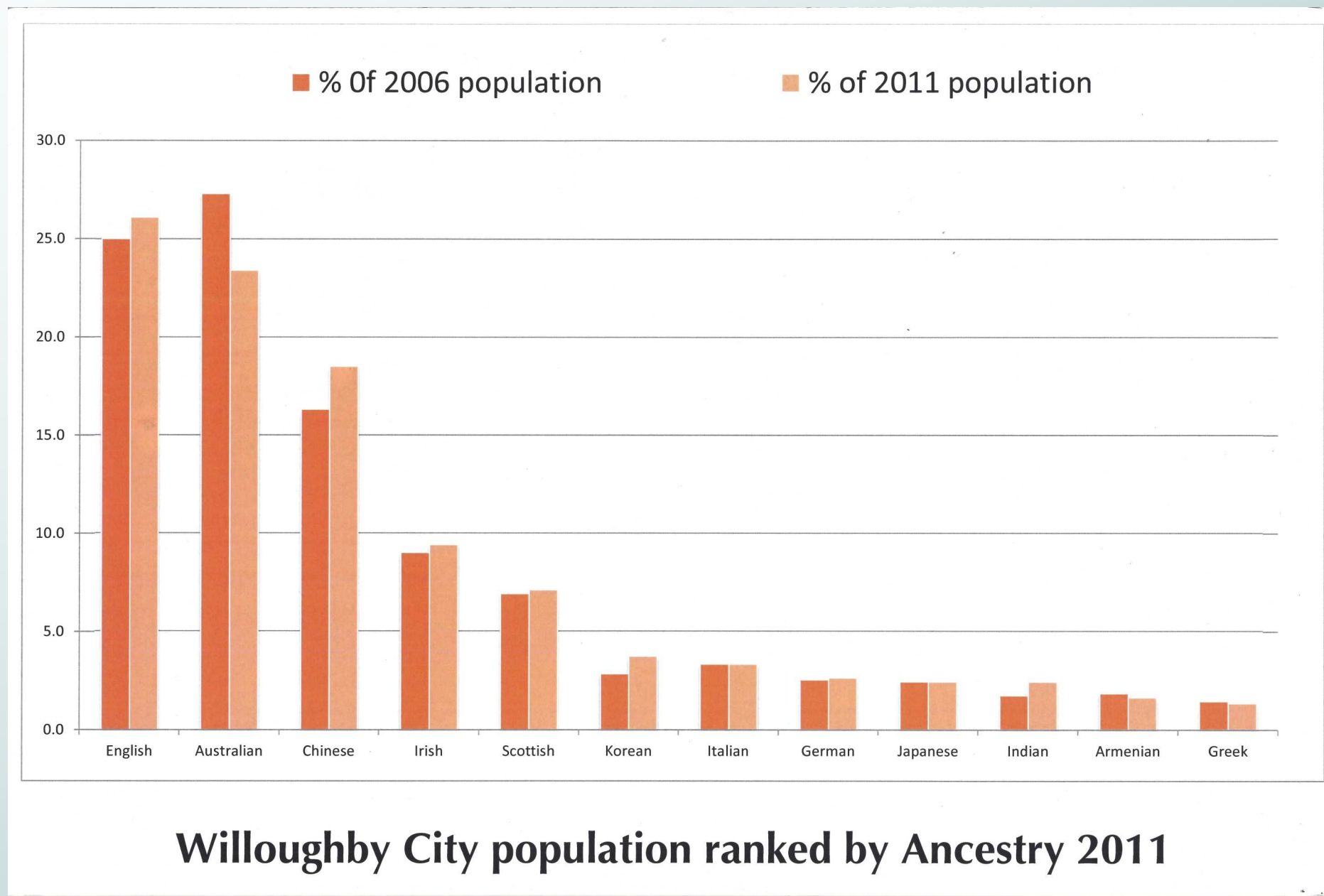
Butcher Bros Brickworks on Lane Cove Road, Artamon, (c. 1901).



Roadwork near Flat Rock Creek as part of the Depression Era Relief, 1930s.



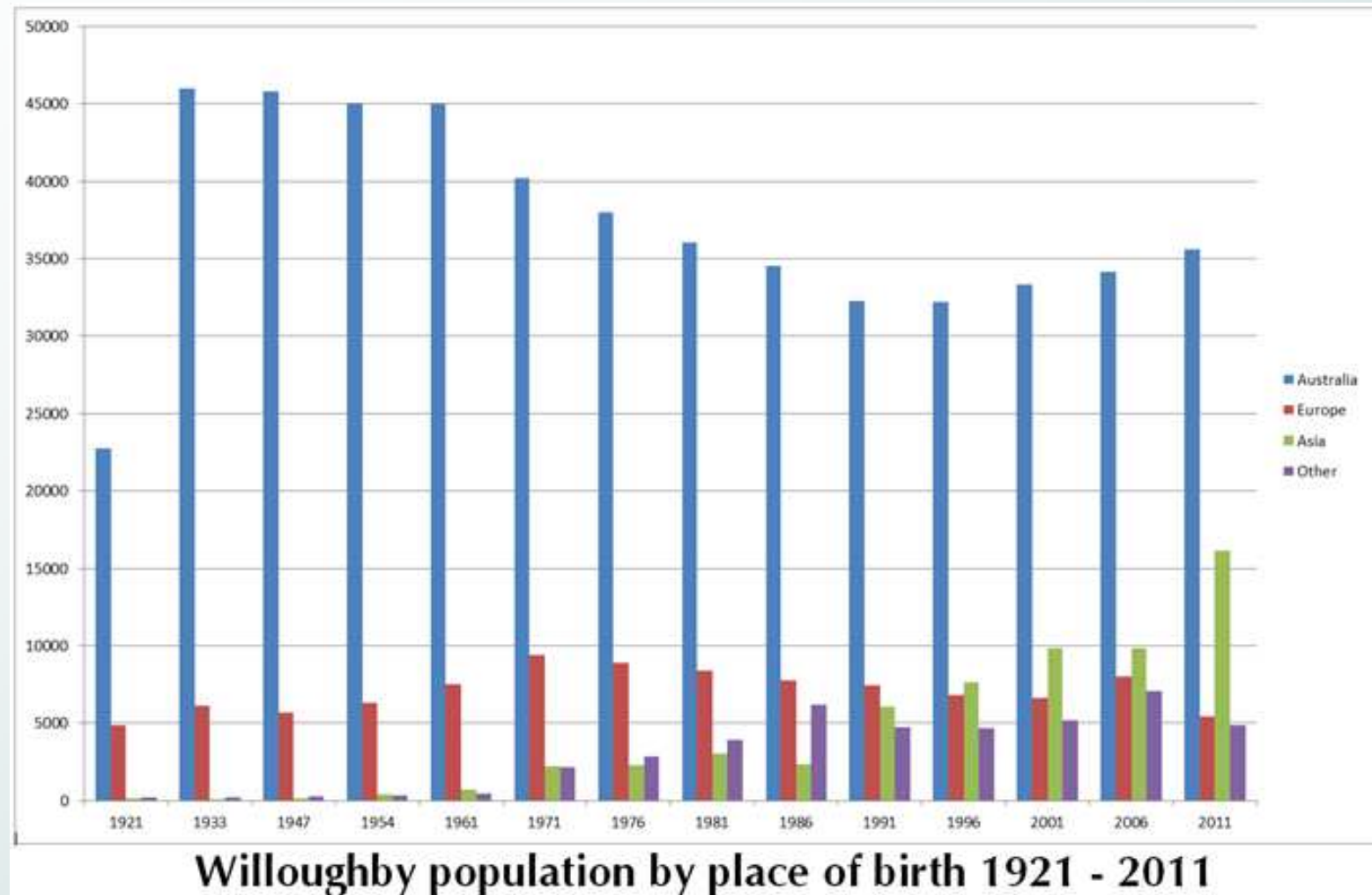
# MULTICULTURAL CHANGE



Celebrating Chinese New Year in the Chatswood Mall, 2003.



# MULTICULTURAL CHANGE



## Cultural and ethnic diversity

When the Municipality of Willoughby became a city in 1989 it adopted the slogan "City of Diversity" in recognition of its various natural and built environments, the different cultures of its residents and the great range of services and activities Council provides for its residents.

1979: North Sydney Intensive English Language Centre at Chatswood High School

1993: MOSAIC Multicultural Centre was an initiative of the Willoughby City Council. **Multicultural One-Stop Assistance Information Centre**

### Early cultural groups:

1870s: Chinese market gardeners come to Willoughby to live and work.

1917: Hideichiro Ide was the pioneer for the development of the Japanese community in the Willoughby area, especially in Northbridge.

1940s: Armenian settlers came to work in the Hallstrom Refrigerator factory.

1950s: Italian and other European immigrants came to Willoughby after the World War II devastations.

Urban consolidation and Chatswood as a commercial and transport hub has brought increases in other communities such as Kore-



Armenian folk dancers at Willoughby Centenary Celebrations, 1990s.



# MULTICULTURAL CHANGE



Japanese folk dancing at Willoughby Park Centre, 2000s.

## Many a Story

A celebration of cultural diversity in our community



Chinese Dance Group from MOSAIC parading at the Willoughby Spring Festival, 1990s.



National Reconciliation Week with Mayor Reilly and aboriginal community representative on the lawn outside Willoughby Civic Centre, 2002.



European cultural groups parading at the Willoughby Centenary Celebrations, 1965.



# THE ARTS COMMUNITY



Willoughby Symphony Orchestra and Choir in the Main Hall of Willoughby Civic Centre before it was demolished, 2000s.



# THE ARTS COMMUNITY



Chatswood School of Arts Orchestral Society under the baton of M. Goffin (Diploma, Imperial Conservation, Petrograd [Russia], 1910s.



Musical performance at the Willoughby Municipal Library, 2007.



Back to the Bush Concert held at the Haven Amphitheatre, Castlecrag, 1980s. The theatre was constructed by Marion Mahony Griffin and Walter Burley Griffin for outdoor performances.



Willoughby Sculpture Prize entrant in Chatswood Library's entrance, 2013.

## The artistic community develops

Art and music activities have brought the Willoughby community together for many years. The various halls and theatres have been venues for these activities.

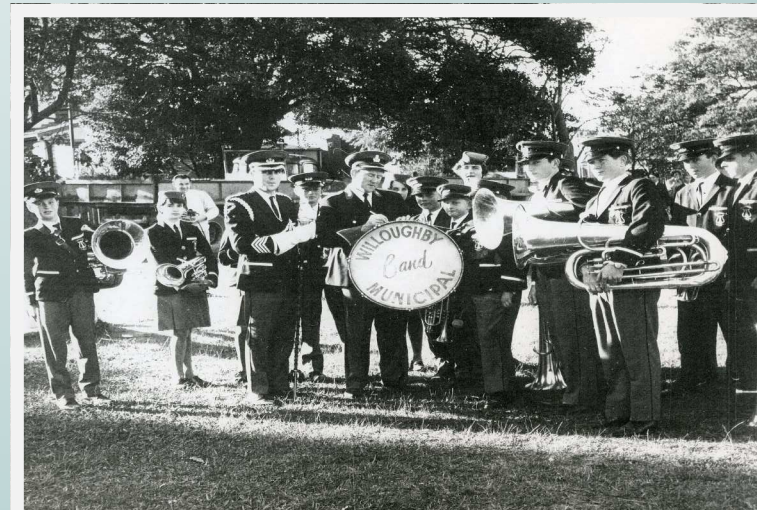
1870-1970	Chatswood School of Arts. Formerly called North Willoughby School of Arts
1903	Naremburn Model Brass Band
1918	Naremburn Merrymakers Club
1920	Willoughby Citizen's Band
1940s	Chatswood-Artarmon Music Club
1951	Chatswood Musical Society
1955	Artarmon Galleries
1957	Willoughby Theatre Company
1959	The Chatswood District Band. Renamed Willoughby Municipal Band in 1961
1963	The Workshop Arts Centre
1963	Northside Arts Festival
1965	Willoughby Municipal Chamber Orchestra
1965	The Willoughby Symphony Orchestra combined with the Northside Choral Society in 1973 to form Willoughby Symphony Orchestra and Choir
1973	Willoughby Youth Theatre Group
1973	Phoenix Theatre Company
1982	Willoughby Music Appreciation Club
1984	Willoughby Municipal Art Prize
1996	Northbridge School of Visual Arts
1996	Australian Institute For Performing Arts
2000	Epicentre Theatre Company
2003	Northbridge Art Prize
2011	Incinerator Art Space
2015	<i>Willoughby Visual Arts Biennial</i>



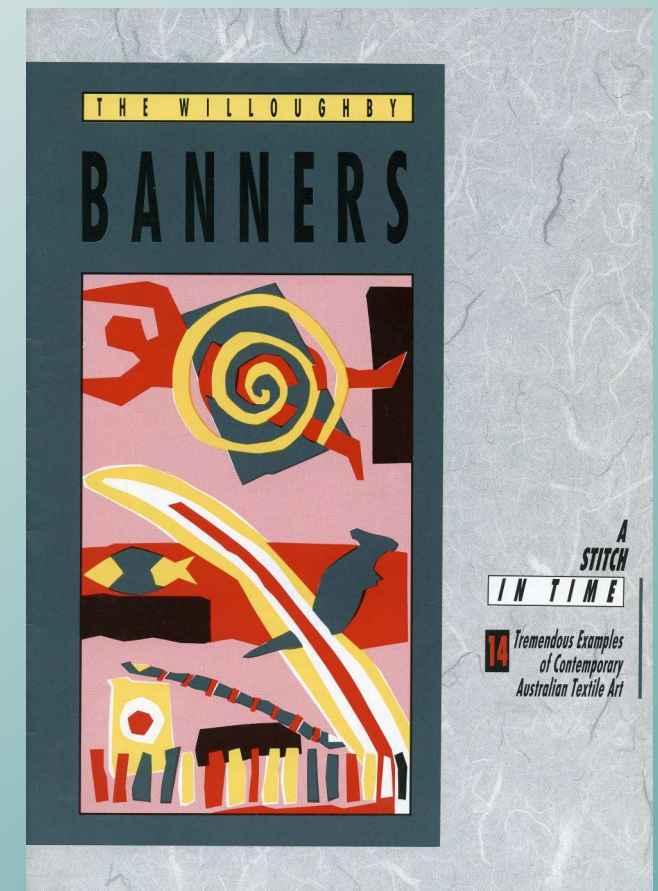
# THE ARTS COMMUNITY



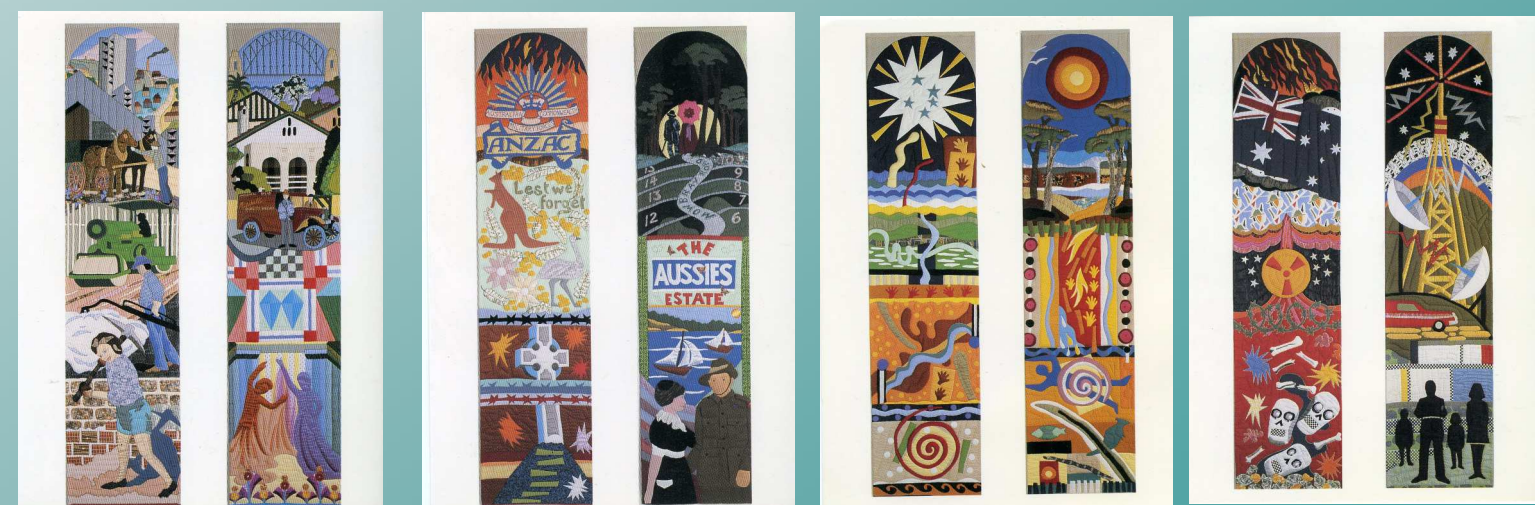
An exhibition program from the Incinerator Art Space, 2011.



Willoughby Municipal Band preparing for a parade, 1980s.



Willoughby Art Prize in the Main Hall of the Willoughby Civic Centre, 2003.



Willoughby Bicentennial Banners Project. Volunteers produced 14 tapestries to document the past, present and future of Willoughby. They are now on display in the Civic Pavilion at The Concourse.



# THE SPORTING LIFE

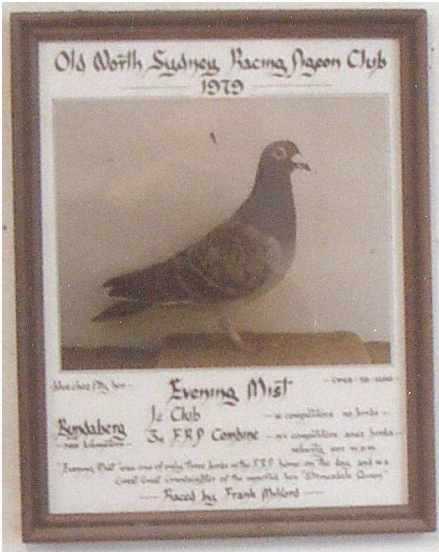


Willoughby Artarmon Soccer Club, A Grade Premiers, 1947



Australian Imperial Force (AIF) Golf Cup Day with women golfers hitting of from the 9th hole at the Northbridge Golf Club, 1936.





A prized racing pigeon from the Old North Sydney Pigeon Club at Naremburn, 1979.

# THE SPORTING LIFE

## A community's involvement in sport

Sport has always been affirmed favourite with the residents of Willoughby City. Parks, ovals, Northbridge Baths (1924) and Willoughby Leisure Centre (1990) have provided venues. Small tennis clubs often started out on private residential tennis courts and no longer exist.



Winners of the NSW Women's Bowling Association No. 2 State Pennant from the Northbridge Bowling Club, 1984.



Willoughby Bicentennial Swimming Carnival organised by the Northbridge Amateur Swimming Club at Northbridge Baths, 1988.

1870s	The Willoughby Undaunted Cricket Club
1899	Chatswood Bowling and Recreation Club. Later renamed Chatswood Bowling Club
1900	Willoughby District Cricket Club
1901	Chatswood Tennis Club on grounds of Chatswood Bowling Club
1905	Gordon District Cricket Club
1913	Old North Sydney Pigeon Racing Club at Naremburn
1919	Northbridge Cricket Club
1921	Artarmon Tennis Club
1922	Chatswood Croquet Club
1923	Willoughby District Tennis Club
1924	Northbridge Sailing Club
1925	Northbridge Tennis Club
1925	Northbridge Amateur Swimming Club
1925	St Basil's Tennis Club. Later renamed Cleland Tennis Club
1932	Castle Cove Country Club
1930	Chatswood Golf Club
1935	Northbridge Golf Club
1936	Gordon Rugby Club. Formerly Roseville Rugby Club
1944	Castlecrag Sports Club and Tennis Courts
1946	Artarmon Bowling & Recreation Club
1949 - 2015	Northbridge Bowling Club
1952	Northbridge Football Club
1953	Willoughby Park Bowling Club
1957	Northbridge Women's Bowling Club amalgamated with Northbridge Bowling Club in 1981
1958	Chatswood West Bowling Club
1959	Valley View Bowling Club. Later named Valley View Bowling & Recreational Club
1959	Valley View Women's Bowling Club
1984	Northbridge Netball Club

In 2016 Willoughby City Council webpage lists  
40 sporting groups in the District



# THE CELEBRATIONS



Willoughby Festivals that are held in September have changed their names over the years – Spring Fair/Festival, Street Fair, Fun Day and now Emerge. Photographs here are from the 1980s.



# THE CELEBRATIONS

## Festivities for special events

Big or small the Willoughby Community took advantage of events to celebrate with parades, speeches and banquets for the opening of buildings, bridges or other special events.

1870s	Chinese New Year celebrated by Chinese market gardeners
1915	Golden Jubilee of Willoughby Municipality Council [50 years]
1965	100 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Willoughby Municipality Council
1973	Spring Festival/ Fun Fair sponsored by Willoughby Council
1988	Bicentennial for Australia Celebrations
1989	Proclamation Day: Willoughby Municipality becomes a City
1990	125 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Willoughby City Council
1999	Harmony Day
2000	The Olympics Torch comes to Willoughby
2013	Centenary of the naming of Northbridge suburb
2015	150 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Willoughby City Council



The Sydney 2000 Olympics Torch Relay comes to Willoughby with local resident Mavis Morris as torch bearer, 1988.



Opening of Clarke's Bridge, Artarmon 1930.



# THE CELEBRATIONS



Miss Willoughby and other entrants in Willoughby Civic Centre with host International tennis player, John Newcombe, 1990.



The 7th Field Regiment "Freedom of Entry to Willoughby City "parade where they received the "Key to the City", July 1990. The Regiment had been stationed at the Artarmon Drill Hall.



Mayor Noel Reidy and other councillors parading down the streets of Chatswood to celebration Proclamation Day: Willoughby Municipality becoming Willoughby City, 1989.



# THE CELEBRATIONS



Re-opening of the Northbridge Suspension Bridge as a concrete arch bridge, 1939.



Street parade with Mayor Reidy and other Councillors to celebrate Proclamation Day when Willoughby Municipality became Willoughby City, 1989

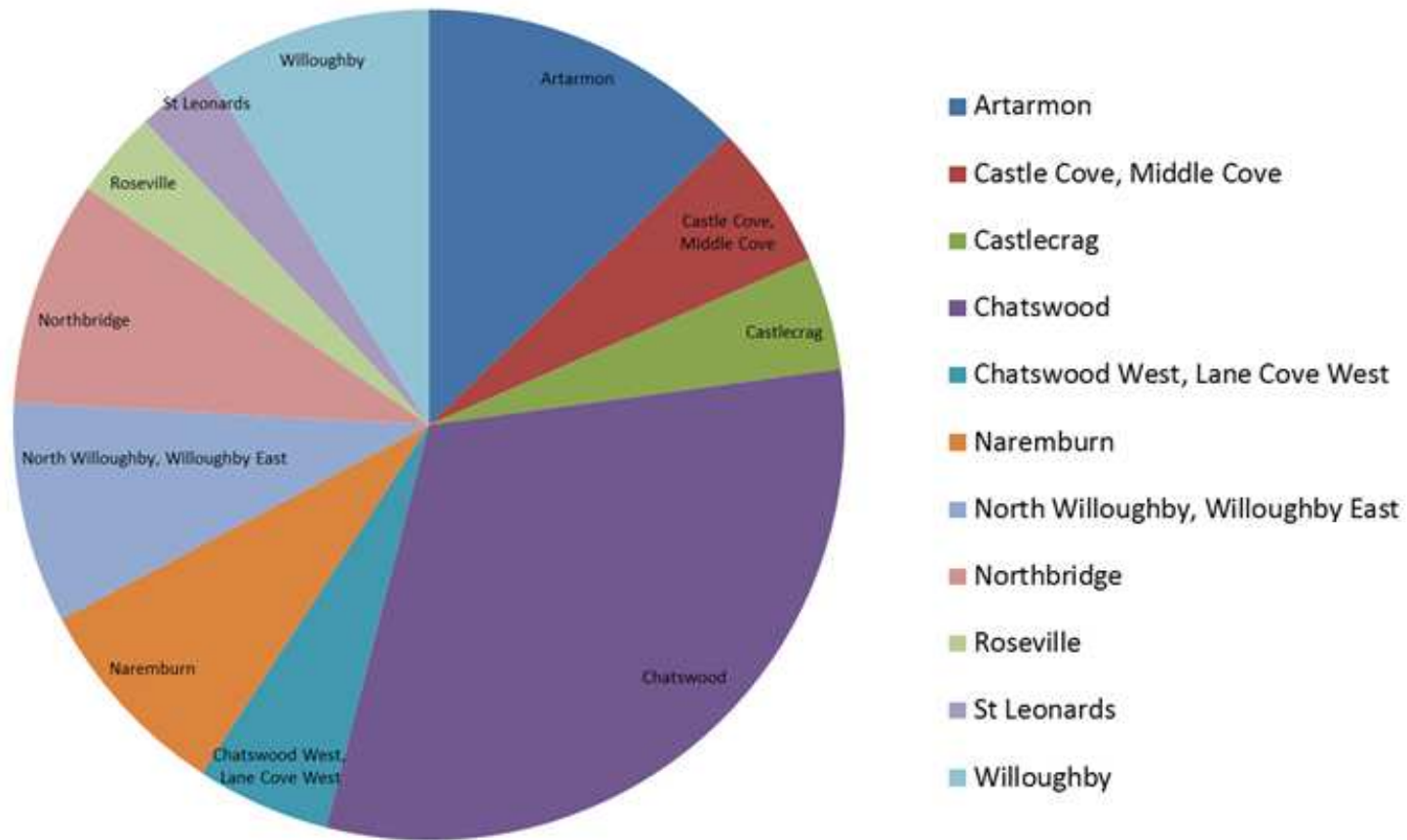


Street parade with Mayor Reidy and other Councillors to celebrate Proclamation Day when Willoughby Municipality became Willoughby City, 1989.

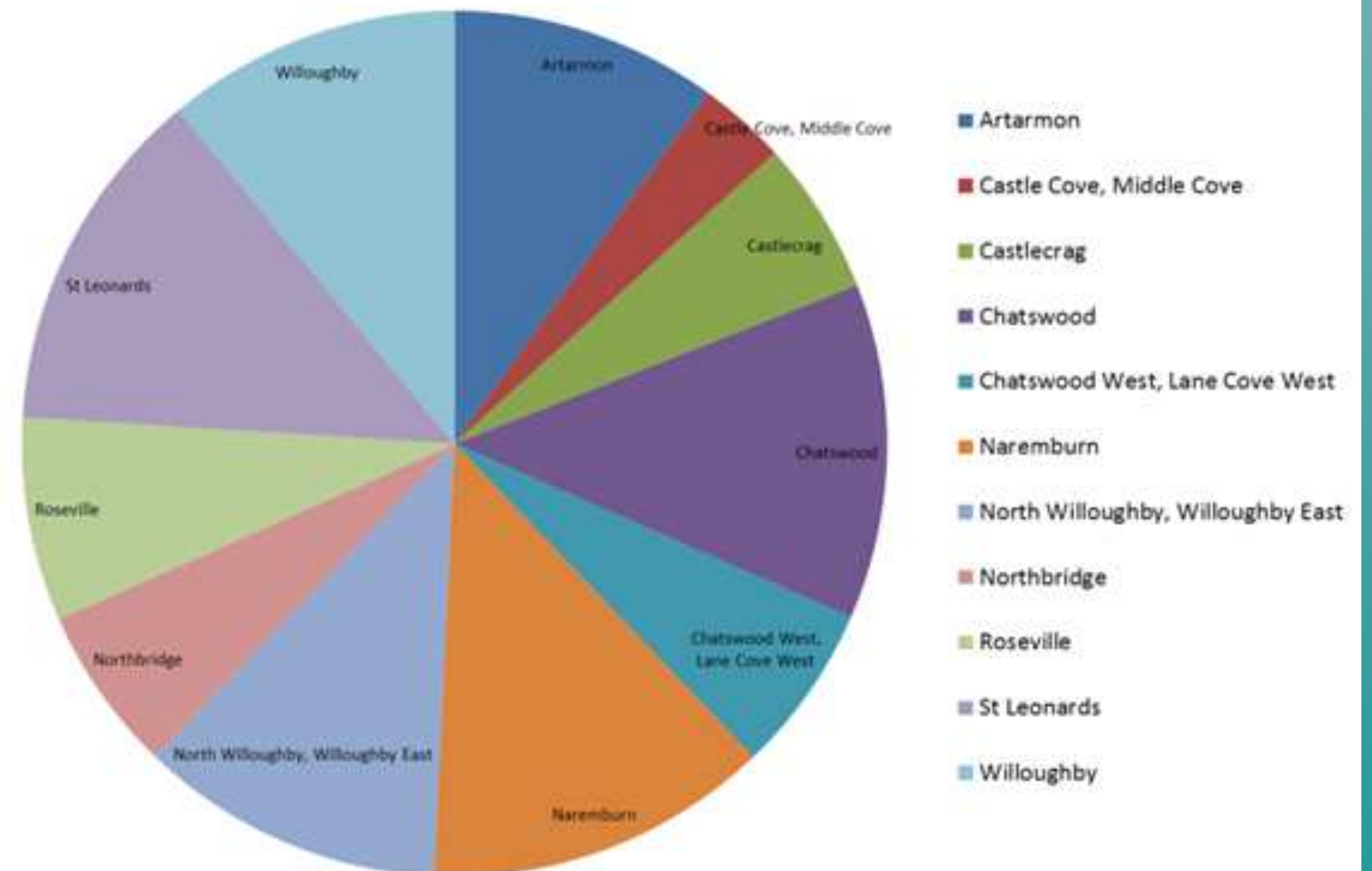


# COMMUNITY DWELLINGS

Willoughby City population by suburbs 2011



Willoughby City suburbs density 2011 - persons per hectare





# COMMUNITY DWELLINGS

## The mixture of homes

Initially the Willoughby neighbourhood contained an interesting mix of dwellings – Victorian, Edwardian and Federation. The California bungalow style of building was popular in Australia from the 1920s. With limited finance and the desire to have “everything on one level” residents favoured the bungalows that in turn produced evenness in domestic architectural styles in some areas of Willoughby that can still be seen today.

Examples of the distinctive style of architecture that Walter Burley Griffin produced in the 1930s in Castlecrag are still evident and valued.

The Willoughby Local Environment Plan (LEP) 1995 provided an extensive list of heritage buildings and structures and provided the legal foundations for 12 Heritage Conservation Areas within Willoughby City.

The transformation of Chatswood and St Leonards as flats congregate around the transport hubs limited the proliferation of flats in other areas.

In recent times many significant architectural designed houses have been built often taking in water views.



Early 19th Century Houses in Willoughby



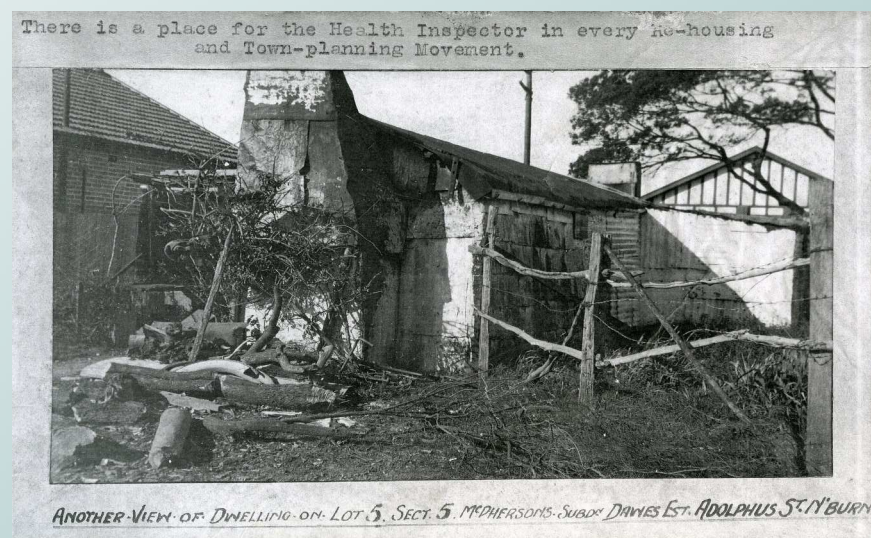
Early 20th Century Houses in Willoughby



# COMMUNITY DWELLINGS



A Walter Burley Griffin designed home in Castlecrag, built in the 1930s.



Sub-standard housing in Naremburn before Council was active in building requirements and town planning, 1920s.



The old and the new: looking north-west towards Chatswood Commercial Business Area, 1980s.



# COMMUNITY DWELLINGS



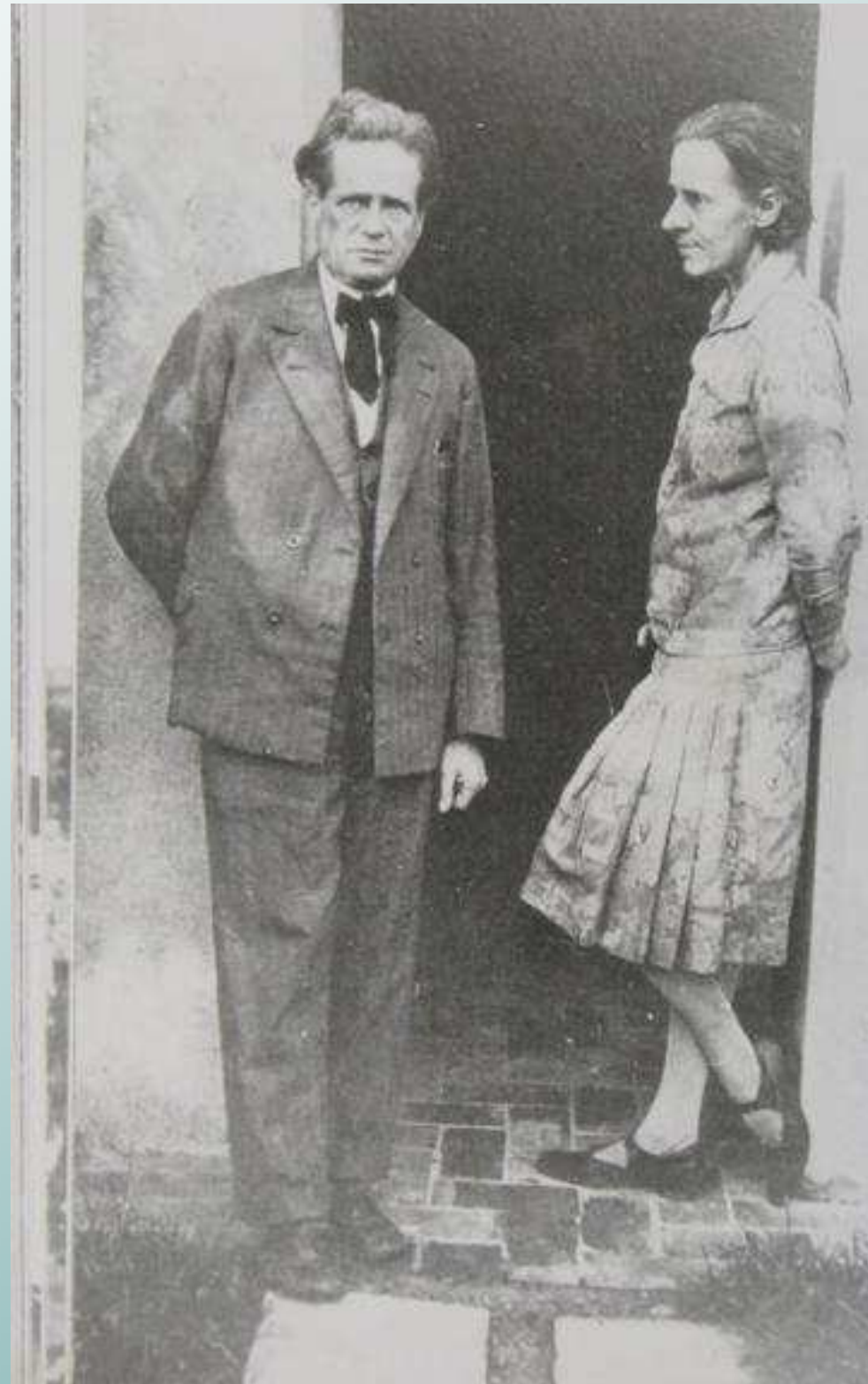
Houses within the Artarmon Heritage Conservation area, 2006



# NOTEWORTHY RESIDENTS



**Yvonne Kenny:** opera singer and lyric soprano and Member of the Order of Australia (AM).



**Walter Burley Griffin:** American architect and landscape architect who with his wife Marion designed Canberra and developed Castlecrag.



**Bob Hawke:** Australian politician, Prime Minister of Australia and Leader of the Labor Party, 1983 - 1991.



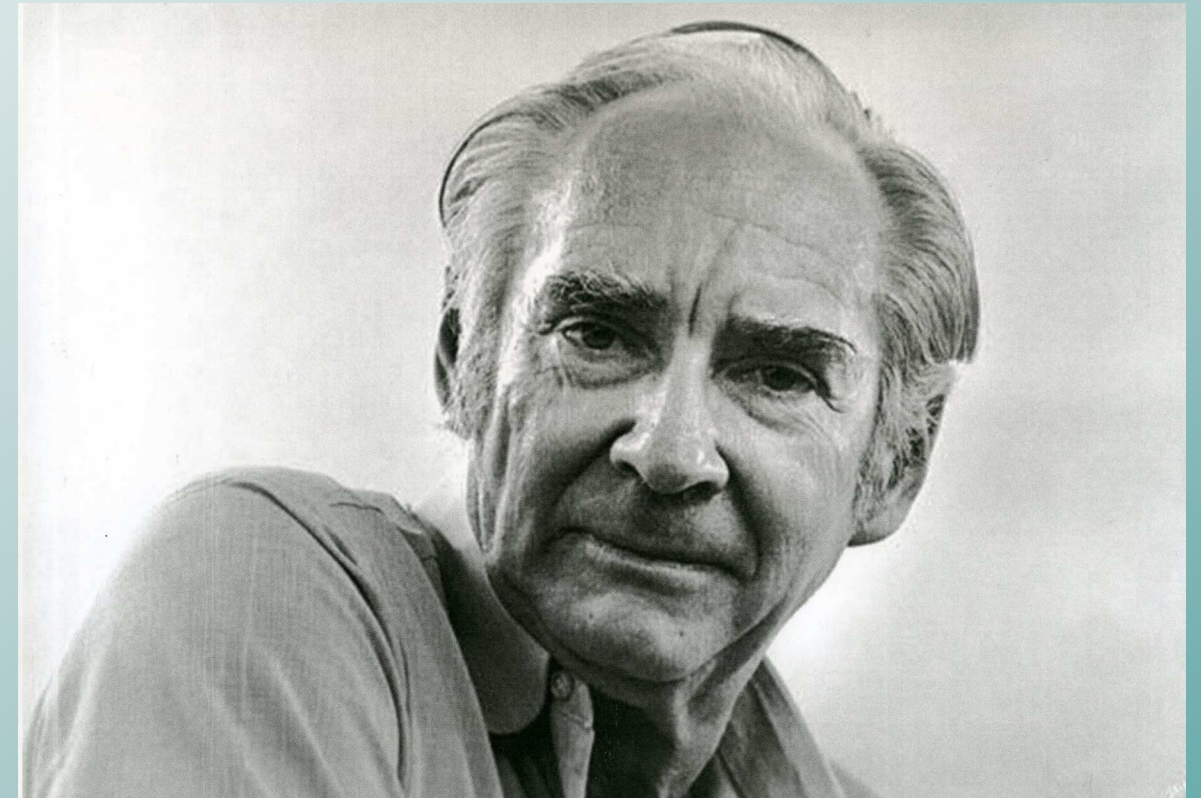
# NOTEWORTHY RESIDENTS



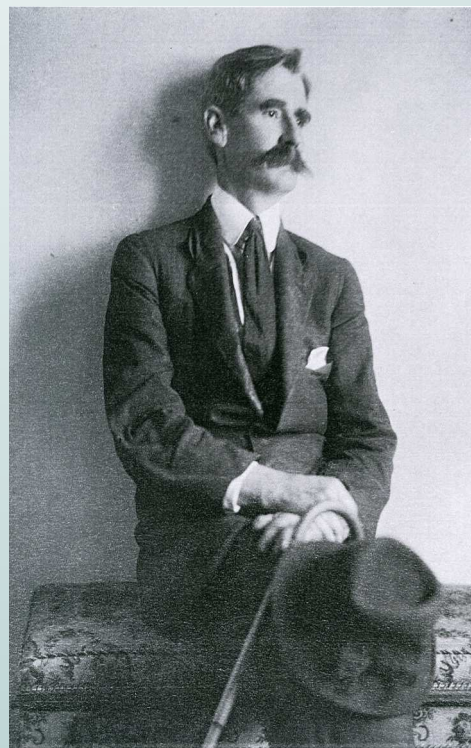
**Victor Trumper:** Australian cricketer, stylish and versatile batsman of the Golden Age of cricket, 1880-1914.



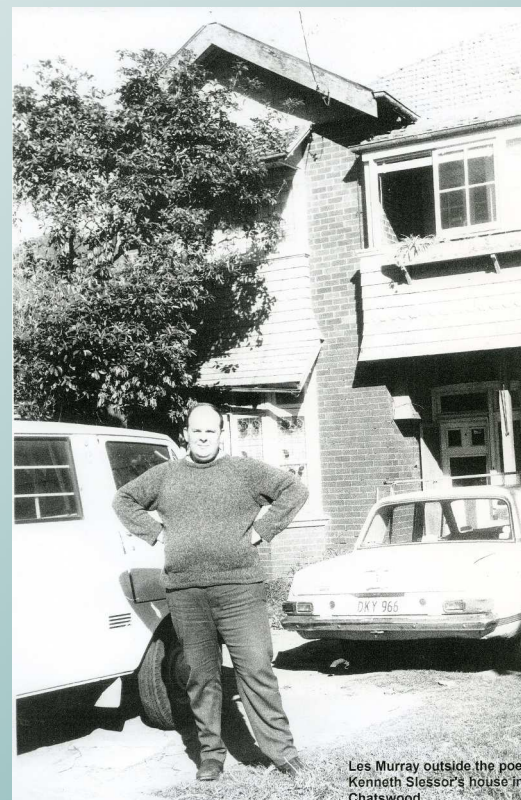
**Edward Hallstrom:** local zoo keeper and manufacturer in Chatswood of the Silent Knight Refrigerators.



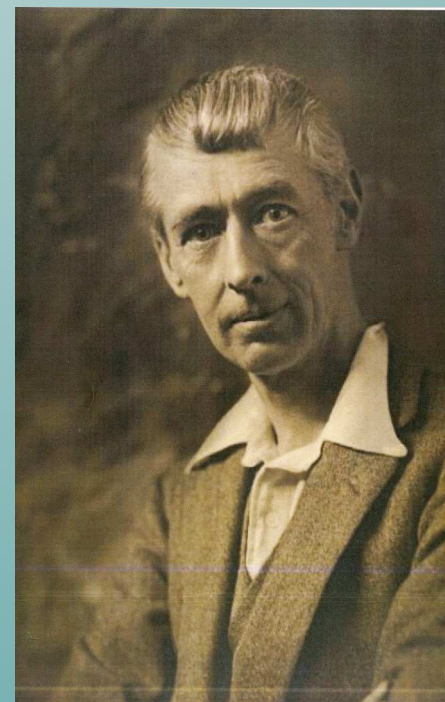
**Max Dupain:** photographer of the mid-20th century who specialised in architecture, merchandise, industrial and portrait commissions.



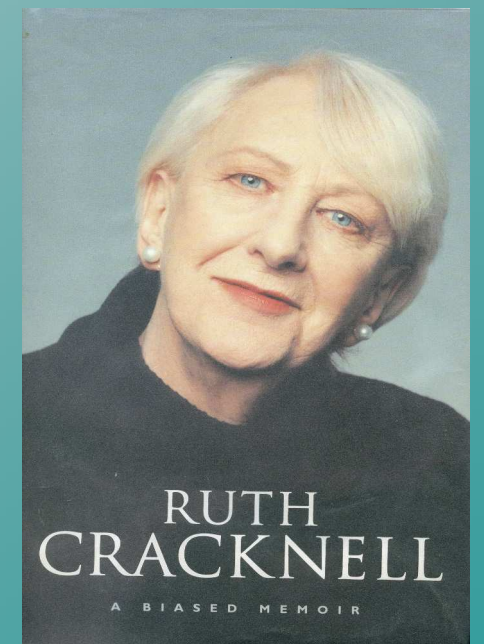
**Henry Lawson:** Australian writer and bush poet of the colonial period, known for his short stories.



**Les Murray:** Australian poet, anthologist and critic. He has published nearly 30 volumes of poetry.



**Norman Lindsay:** Australian artist, etcher, sculptor, writer, editorial cartoonist and scale modeller.

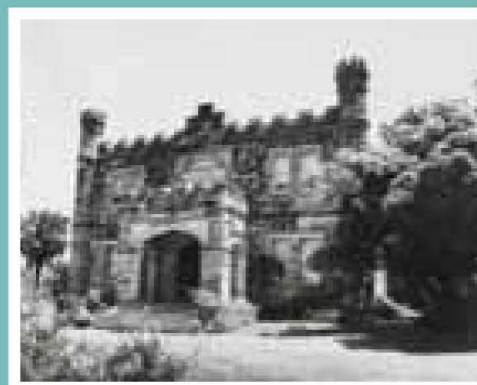


**Ruth Cracknell:** Australian character actress, author and Member of the Order of Australia (AM)





# Picture Willoughby



Chatswood Library on The Concourse,  
Lower Ground, 409 Victoria Ave, Chatswood



## Picture Willoughby

*Picture Willoughby comprises over 9,000 images of the local area available online via the Library website. These date from 1890 and include rare images documenting the Great Depression era relief work program. The digitisation of these images was made possible through grant funding from the State Library of NSW.*

You are welcome to contribute to the Picture Willoughby archive by donating originals or scans of your own images of Willoughby district. Please ask the Local History staff, phone the library 9777 7900 or email [library@willoughby.nsw.gov.au](mailto:library@willoughby.nsw.gov.au) for more information.