

## Preserving the past, preparing for the future

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Many thanks to Dr Brian Lindsay, Chief of Staff to the President of the Legislative Council, the Hon Don Harwin MLC, for drafting the section on the commemoration of the centenary of ANZAC, and to Alex Stedman, Deputy Usher of the Black Rod, for drafting the section on the Legislative Council's oral history project.

If we could learn from history, what lessons it might teach us! But passion and party blind our eyes, and the light which experience gives is a lantern on the stern, which shines only on the waves behind us. (Samuel Taylor Coleridge)<sup>2</sup>

Parliament stands at the apex of our democracy. Its effective functioning, in turn, depends on the accumulated respect and authority parliament has amongst the people. As Presiding Officers and Clerks, our working life is immersed in precedents from the past – the building blocks that enable our institutions to function. It follows that we should value and nurture parliamentary history, and history generally. In this respect, the New South Wales Legislative Council and the Parliament as a whole has recently undertaken a number of initiatives which have each contributed to the recording, preservation or commemoration of history generally and the history of Australia's oldest parliament specifically.

It would, however, be incorrect to think that the importance of parliamentary history is somehow a new discovery for the Parliament of NSW. A key Centenary of Federation project jointly sponsored by the Parliament of NSW and the University of Sydney was the publication of a three volume history of electoral politics in NSW since 1901.<sup>3</sup> As the Sesquicentenary of Responsible Government in NSW in 2006 approached, it was clear that such a major event should be commemorated. Historian and former Education Minister Rodney Cavalier had served as Deputy Chair of the Centenary of Federation Committee. He had firm ideas on the subject and put them to the Premier of the time, The Hon Bob Carr MP. A decision was taken to establish a committee, with an appropriate membership and budget, to produce serious works of history around the theme of responsible government that would stand the test of time. The then Treasurer, the Hon Michael Egan MLC, also a student of history, concurred. He not only provided a generous budget but also became a member of the Committee for the Sesquicentenary of Responsible Government in NSW. Rodney Cavalier was the Chair. The membership was a judicious combination of historians, political scientists and practitioners of politics past and present.<sup>4</sup> It proved to be an effective and harmonious group. At the outset, the Committee rejected the approach of providing large grants to major institutions. Instead it sought out authors with expertise and enthusiasm and funded their projects. As well as a history of the NSW Parliament,<sup>5</sup> and a two volume history of the Premiers of NSW,<sup>6</sup> histories were produced on all the major political parties and independents and minor parties together with works on the Constitution of NSW, women in politics and indigenous Australians. In total, the Committee funded 37 published works and seven on-line projects. Key writers and researchers included former parliamentary Research Service staff Dr David Clune and Dr Gareth Griffith,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Table Talk (1835) 18 December 1831.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Michael Hogan & David Clune (ed.s), *The People's Choice: Electoral Politics in 20th Century New South Wales*, Parliament of New South Wales and University of Sydney, 2000.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> The Committee members were Rodney Cavalier (Chair), Dr David Clune, the Hon Michael Egan MLC, Mr Graham Freudenberg, Professor Jim Hagan, The Hon Don Harwin MLC, Dr Michael Hogan, Associate Professor Carol Liston, Mr Barry O'Farrell MP and Mr Ken Turner.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> David Clune & Gareth Griffith, *Decision and Deliberation: The Parliament of New South Wales 1856-2003*, The Federation Press, 2006.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> David Clune & Ken Turner, *The Premiers of New South Wales 1856-2005*, Volumes 1 & 2, The Federation Press, 2006

with a number of contributions by serving and former Members of Parliament. It is a rich legacy that will nourish the roots of parliamentary democracy in NSW.<sup>7</sup>

Since 2011 some of the focus of the commemoration of parliamentary history has taken some new turns. One focus has been the Parliament building itself, the oldest public building in Australia in continuous use, and the site of many dramatic episodes of political history over an almost 200 year period. Beginning with projects such as the "225 exhibition" a collection of 25 objects from 225 years of NSW political history, and a retrospective exhibition of the Parliament's art collection, the Fountain Court main public area has been the focus of displays bringing the history of the Parliament to life. The vision of the Presiding Officers, framed in terms of enhancing the Visitor Experience to the Parliament, has coincided with the securing of significant capital works funding, which has facilitated not only the refurbishment of large parts of the building, but also significant restoration work. The delivery of these capital works and visitor experience enhancement projects has involved close collaboration between the three parliamentary departments. The role of the Department of Parliamentary Services (DPS) in successfully delivering these projects has been particularly important.

The NSW Parliament's Strategic Plan for the period 2015-2019 identifies as one of our values preserving corporate memory and ensuring continuity of the institution while innovating services and service delivery. Major initiatives for the current parliamentary term include preservation, restoration and enhancement of the heritage of Parliament House, and fostering scholarship on the Parliament and parliamentary process.

This brief paper outlines five recent initiatives. These projects have captured significant corporate and institutional history and made that information available to current and future members, staff and others with an interest in the institution of parliament.

#### Commemoration of the centenary of ANZAC

The exhibition Politics and Sacrifice: The NSW Parliament and the ANZACs was the principal contribution of the NSW Parliament to the national commitment to mark the centenary of ANZAC and to remind today's generation of Australians of the importance of the ANZAC narrative.

The Great War touched the NSW Parliament directly. Throughout the nation many Members of Parliament gave up their seats to enlist and to fight. After the War many returned to politics and many continued in highly distinguished political careers. Twenty-five Members and staff from the NSW Parliament served during the Great War, two of them fell at Gallipoli: George Braund and Edward Larkin, the only Australian parliamentarians to die on the field of battle.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> A full list of sesquicentenary publications is appended to this paper.

The genesis of the exhibition was an initiative of a cross-party group of parliamentarians, but responsibility for arranging and mounting the exhibition was assumed by the three departments of the Parliament under the direction of the Presiding Officers.

The Politics & Sacrifice exhibition honoured the service of the Members and parliamentary staff who took part in the war, particularly the sacrifice of the two Members who were killed at Gallipoli, and recounted the role played by the Parliament in the many political debates concerning aspects of the war that occurred. In addition to sections focussed on the service of members and staff at Gallipoli and on the Western Front, Politics & Sacrifice featured displays about the service of Members in the Medical Corps, the impact on conscription debates on the modern political party system, the role of Aboriginal servicemen from New South Wales and the treatment of so-called 'enemy subjects' of German heritage and anti-war dissenters.

While artefacts and artworks from the Parliament's archives, library and art collection formed the core of the display, several items were loaned from other institutions and permission was obtained to reproduce numerous images. The presentation of the exhibition was professionally designed and involved professional conservation work, printing, mounting and framing. The associated costs were met through sponsorship from a range of sources, principally the RSL & Services Clubs Association. The involvement of these organisations enabled the Parliament to deliver the exhibition without incurring a direct financial cost to taxpayers.

The exhibition was formally opened by the Governor at a launch attended by Members, sponsor representatives, family members of many of those profiled in the displays, parliamentary staff and representatives from other institutions whose items and images were included. An accompanying booklet version of the exhibition was also produced as a lasting record of the exhibition and the stories told.

The exhibition was displayed in the Fountain Court, a significant public space at the centre of the Parliamentary precinct and was in place for a total of four months encompassing two important public holidays: Australia Day and Anzac Day. While difficult to assess the number of people who viewed the exhibition, it is estimated that 35,000 visitors came to Parliament House during the exhibition period. Evaluation forms were provided to visitors and the feedback was overwhelmingly positive. In general, visitors appreciated the opportunity to learn about the history presented and view historic items, especially the diaries and letters on loan from the State Library of NSW. In response to the question "what did you enjoy most about the exhibition?" responses included: "stories I never knew about the way war touched all political persuasions", "interesting stories" and "excellent material from a wide range of authentic sources". The sections on conscription and aboriginal servicemen were singled out the most frequently.

This exhibition and the accompanying book were the result of an outstanding collaborative effort by numerous staff from across the Parliament who dedicated their time to research, write, edit and design. This includes staff from the Department of Parliamentary Services, the Department of the Legislative Council and the Department of the Legislative Assembly.

Politics and Sacrifice is also an important example of the Parliament's commitment to raising public awareness of the role and history of the Parliament and improving public access to the records and artefacts held in the Parliament's archives and historic collections.

In addition to the exhibition Politics and Sacrifice, timed to coincide with the centenary in 2015 of the landing of ANZAC troops at Gallipoli, the Parliament has also been observing the centenary of the war with a series of statements in the Chambers by the Presiding Officers.

At the beginning of each sitting week, the Presiding Officers read a short statement about historic events that took place that same week one hundred years earlier, often relating to Members or staff from the Parliament of New South Wales. These statements are not designed to form a detailed or comprehensive history of the conflict, but rather to illustrate the breadth of events experienced by people during the war and to bring home the long timeframe over which the war was fought.

The statements provide Members, visitors, viewers of the webcast of proceedings and readers of Hansard an opportunity to reflect on different aspects of the war and remember the service of their forebears. One week it might be a passage about a significant major battle that commenced a century earlier that week, while another week there might be a statement about the service and careers of a particular pair of Members who both enlisted that week a century earlier. Other statements, meanwhile, consider such topics as the development of submarines, the role of the Red Cross and the creation of what is now known as the Returned Service's League.

The statements are an initiative of the Presiding Officers following a suggestion by the then Chairman of the NSW Centenary of Anzac Advisory Council, General Sir Peter John Cosgrove, AK, MC, now Governor General of Australia, that the Parliament consider ways to formally acknowledge the centenary in the Chambers throughout the entirety of the four-year period rather than just the period immediately around the centenary of the Gallipoli landings.

#### The restoration of the Rum Hospital and Jubilee Room

Parliament House in Macquarie Street, Sydney, the home of the Parliament of NSW, consists of a complex of buildings which have developed over 200 years. It includes one of the oldest buildings in Sydney, the so called Rum Hospital, the construction of which commenced in 1811 – financed by a small group of merchants for the Government in return for a monopoly in the trade of rum into the colony of New South Wales. The north wing of the Rum Hospital, consisting of the façade and threes rooms now used as meeting rooms, was taken over by the parliament in 1829. From this unusual beginning was added first one, then a second chamber, then a range of adjoining buildings. One of the most significant of those additions was the Jubilee Room, which commemorated the jubilee of responsible government in 1906 and which was for many years the Parliamentary Library reading room.

Parliament House was the subject of extensive restoration and development in the late 1970s and early 1980s. In 2002 the Parliament entered into a heritage protocol with the NSW Heritage

Office concerning the conservation of the buildings. In 2007 a Conservation Management Plan was produced to provide a clear philosophy to guide decision making about the site, based on a thorough understanding of its significance, components and contents. To quote from the Conservation Management Plan:

The NSW Parliament House is of exceptional social and historical significance to the people of NSW as the seat of the State's legislature since 1829. The Rum Hospital, which formed the nucleus for the Parliament building complex as it grew with the changing requirements for the legislature over the 19th and 20th centuries, is historically significant as part of Governor Macquarie's grand plan for Sydney and, together with the Mint Building to the south, as one of the earliest extant public buildings in Australia. Both the Mint and Parliament House are of exceptional aesthetic significance for their contribution to the streetscape of Macquarie Street, one of Sydney's finest streets, and as rare examples of Georgian architecture and detailing typically found in the British colonies but now rare in Australia... the interiors of the Rum Hospital, two chambers, Jubilee Room and the lobby are of outstanding aesthetic significance...<sup>8</sup>

In 2015 funding was obtained from NSW Treasury for essential restoration and maintenance of the historic buildings. The funding application was based on a detailed heritage maintenance and dilapidation report of the Rum Hospital building<sup>9</sup> and a detailed assessment of the Jubilee Room.<sup>10</sup> The 2015/16 state budget set aside \$2.340M to the project over two years. The first year's funding, \$1.140M, enabled the Jubilee Room to be restored.

As a consequence, the Jubilee Room has been "returned to the configuration it had in its heyday as the parliamentary library reading room." Interior finishes and fittings have been restored, particularly the original cedar bookcases lining the walls on the ground floors. Those bookshelves have now been revealed and filled with official publications. (This involved the removal of the 1980's historical interpretive panels. It is the view of the Presiding officers that the time for static displays has passed. The future approach to historical interpretive materials is a work in progress – in time it might entail audio tours and audio-visual displays.) The stained glass lantern in the ceiling (which features the head of Minerva the goddess of wisdom and the words "Knowledge is the Mother of Wisdom and Virtue") had already been restored, cleaned and newly lit from above as a consequence of the building of the new wing on level 9. The carpet has been replaced, lighting has been upgraded and chairs replaced. New state of the art audio-visual equipment has also been installed. An opening has been made in the floor, covered by a trap-door that can be opened on request, to display the original sandstone steps that led to the Rum Hospital's kitchen, dating back to 1811.

There were a number of challenges in the restoration of the Jubilee Room, including in the sourcing of appropriate materials. However, the end product is visually striking. The work on

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Clive Lucas, Stapleton and Partners Pty Ltd, New South Wales Parliament House: Conservation Management Plan, 2007, p1.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Clive Lucas, Stapleton and Partners Pty Ltd, New South Wales Parliament House: Interior Dilapidation Report, October 2014.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Clive Lucas, Stapleton and Partners Pty Ltd, New South Wales Parliament House: Heritage Assessment of Jubilee Room, March 2015

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> Ibid., p 38.

this important project of the Department of Parliamentary Services Facilities Branch and the advice of Clive Lucas, Stapleton and Partners Pty Ltd, heritage architects, is very much appreciated.

The second year's funding of \$1.200M will be used to restore a number of areas in the Rum Hospital and chambers, including the lobbies, the Premier's corridor and Speaker's wing, where the 1983 decorative restoration work is now showing signs of dilapidation.

To mark the bicentenary of the Surgeon-General moving into his quarters in the northern wing of the Rum Hospital, on 8 April 2016 a self-guided tour of the Rum Hospital with story boards was available to visitors in April 2016. The Parliament is working with Sydney Living Museums, which has its headquarters in the southern wing of the Rum Hospital (which later became The Mint), on further plans to mark the bicentenary and it is expected that the Rum Hospital will be a primary focus for Sydney Open in October 2016.

#### The digitisation of the records of the colonial Parliament

The NSW Legislative Council was Australia's first legislature. The 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of its establishment in 1824 is fast approaching. In 2014/2015 the Parliament was successful in gaining capital funding to, firstly, digitise and preserve documents and records of the Parliament from 1824 to 1901 and, secondly, to make those documents publicly accessible.

The project is nearing completion. All documents of the original Legislature Councils between 1824 and 1856, together with the records of the Legislative Council and Legislative Assembly from the establishment of responsible government in 1856 until the establishment of the Commonwealth in 1901, have now been digitised. This includes correspondence with the Imperial Parliament, documents of important historical figures, and records of the early society of New South Wales and Australia, as well as the great political debates leading to federation. The metadata has been collected and once quality assurance checking is complete, and the digital library tested, the documents will be available on the Parliament's website, and linked to modern day records and parliamentary papers.

As a package, these documents form a unique record of our nation's transition from a penal Colony, to responsible government and on to federation. They are an irreplaceable record of the early history of the States of Victoria, Tasmania, New South Wales and Queensland and document the relationship between leading historical figures in early Australian history as they petitioned, negotiated and corresponded with the Legislative Council in relation to personal, business and political matters.

While the digitised documents will be available on the Parliament's website, the original documents will be transferred to the State Records Authority. Under the existing Memorandum of Understanding between the Parliament and State Records, the Parliament will retain custody of the records and State Records will manage and care for the records in appropriate environmental conditions and make them available to the public and researchers on request.

I would like to acknowledge the work of staff from the Department of Parliamentary Services, the Department of the Legislative Council and the Department of the Legislative Assembly who have managed this important project, through to its forthcoming conclusion.

### The Legislative Council's oral history project

In 2013 the Department of the NSW Legislative Council held a series of interviews with former parliamentarians to mark a particularly important milestone in the Council's history: the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the establishment of the modern committee system. The Council's oral history project (the project) is now an ongoing initiative which seeks to record and share key aspects of the Council's history as told by the people who have shaped its evolution as a House of Review. Interviews have also been held to examine the events that led to the reconstitution of the Council as a directly elected body in 1978, as well as the Egan cases that occurred in the late 1990s and which enabled the courts to consider a number of important issues regarding the relationship of the Executive to the Parliament.

The Council is not unique in conducting an oral history or similar type project with other parliaments throughout Australia having also worked to capture the thoughts of former members and staff. From the Council's perspective such initiatives are a valuable conduit through which to capture significant corporate and institutional history and make that information available to those with an interest in the institution of parliament.

The 25th anniversary, in 2013, of the establishment of the Legislative Council's modern standing committee system proved an opportune moment to look at the contribution Council committees have made to the effective governance of NSW and also to consider what role upper house inquiries may take in future. One identified means to take stock and identify possible future directions was to conduct an oral history. This led to interviews being held with five former members closely involved with the development of the Council's standing committee system: the Hon Max Wills (Liberal), the Hon Ron Dyer (Labor), the Hon John Hannaford (Liberal), the Hon Lloyd Lange (Liberal), and the Hon Elisabeth Kirkby (Democrats). The interviews were held at the NSW Parliament, transcribed by Hansard, and conducted by the Clerk of the Parliaments in collaboration with Dr David Clune the former Parliamentary Historian. <sup>12</sup>

After the interviews were concluded work commenced on a monograph with the purpose of tying together the thoughts of the interviewees into one document. Drafted by Dr Clune the monograph, entitled, Keeping the Executive Honest: the modern Legislative Council committee system<sup>13</sup> located the genesis of the standing committee system, namely the Council's transformation in 1978 into a fully elected full-time House and the ensuing expectation that members would take a more active approach to their work. More importantly, the monograph

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> All interviews for the project conducted to date can be accessed via the Legislative Council's <u>oral history homepage</u>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> Dr David Clune, 'C25: Marking 25 years of the committee system in the Legislative Council', http://www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/prod/web/common.nsf/key/C25, retrieved 23 June 2016.

teased out the observations of the interviewees regarding the effectiveness of the Council's standing committee system and its strengths and weaknesses.

Common to the interviewees was the belief that the standing committee system has made a significant contribution to the good governance and accountability of NSW. That shared assessment, however, did not preclude the interviewees from commenting on ways committee inquiries may be improved. Their thoughts helped paved the way for the establishment in June 2015 of the Select Committee on the Legislative Council Committee System. <sup>14</sup> This Committee is currently inquiring into how the committee system can continue to enable the Legislative Council to effectively fulfil its role as a House of Review and is expected to table its report in September/October 2016.

In mid-2015 work commenced on the second and third stages of the oral history project, with interviews held to examine the events that led to the reconstitution of the Council as a directly elected body in 1978, as well as the Egan cases that occurred in the late 1990s and which enabled the courts to consider a number of important issues regarding the relationship of the Executive to the Parliament.

To date eight interviews have been held with the following former members and clerks: the Hon Max Willis (Liberal), the Hon Michael Egan AO (Labor), Mrs Ann Symonds (Labor), the Hon John Hannaford (Liberal), Mr Les Jeckeln (former clerk), Mr John Evans (former clerk), the Hon Jack Hallam (Labor), and the Hon Elisabeth Kirkby (Democrats). Further interviews are scheduled for the latter half of 2016.

The interviews have produced a valuable set of reflections and commentary on a variety of matters. This includes potential future Council reforms, suggestions to enhance the administrative arrangements of the departments that support the House, and discussions regarding the natural tension between a government's right to legislate and an upper house's right to review the work of the Executive. These issues along with others will be considered further in two future monographs prepared by Dr Clune. The first monograph on the 1978 reconstitution is scheduled to be published in the very near future, while the second monograph on the Egan Cases is due to be released in towards the end of 2016 or early 2017.

The project has been a valuable initiative for the Department to undertake and has yielded some positive outcomes. It has helped create an irreplaceable archive of commentary on some of the key events that have shaped the Council's evolution. Work on the project is ongoing and hopefully all future actions will continue to add to our understanding of how the Council has performed in its role of legislative review, scrutiny and inquiry. One possible area for future exploration arising from the observations of interviewees concerns the work performed by those in Council leadership positions.

Interviewees have appreciated being contacted and invited to reflect on their contributions. An additional, unanticipated benefit of the project has been that the interviews have enabled

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> NSW Legislative Council Minutes, 24 June 2015, pp 218-219.

some people, who gave decades of service to the Parliament and who otherwise may not have had the opportunity, to re-engage with the institution and reflect on their storied careers.

An article on the project is due to published in the forthcoming 2016 winter edition of the Australasian Parliamentary Review. The paper provides further detail on the project's progress and outcomes to date, as well as the key issues and themes that have emerged from the interviews. The paper also reflects on what is required to administer such an initiative.

#### The Annotated Standing Orders of the Legislative Council

Former Clerk of the Parliaments, John Evans, handed onto to his successors a loose leaf folder, with each standing order appearing at the top of a separate page, underneath which he had added hand-written "annotations" of precedents and other interesting uses of each standing order. <sup>15</sup> As these "annotations" were checked and recorded on a database they became the genesis for a major procedural research project. Recording of precedents for the use of former standing orders soon led to questions as to exactly how those standing orders had developed over time. The connections with earlier sets of standing orders, and the current standing orders, were not always clear.

In 2009 the Department of the Senate published the *Annotated Standing Orders of the Australian Senate*. This comprehensive work describes the development of the standing orders of the Australian Senate and includes a short description of each current standing order, its amendment history and a commentary on its use and development. That work became both a model and an inspiration for what could be produced from the annotations of earlier Council Clerks and the volume of procedural precedent information catalogued over time by staff of the Department of the Legislative Council.

In 2013 a project team was established and a project plan approved. The project has involved detailed research into the adoption, rescission and amendment of each standing order since 1856, together with the compilation of precedents for the use of each of the current standing orders. It has been an enormous undertaking, with most of the work completed by Ms Susan Want, Ms Jenelle Moore and Ms Velia Mignacca, all very experienced procedural officers. Committee staff have contributed to the entries on chapter 35 of the current standing orders, and a range of staff have assisted with research and footnotes. However, it is Susan, Jenelle and Velia who have carried this project and who will be recognised as the authors.

Having now edited the first draft of what will be published as the *Annotated Standing Orders of the Legislative Council*, it is clear that this document is a work of significant scholarship. From an historical point of view the *Annotated Standing Orders of the Legislative Council* will also be of interest

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> Other Clerks including Lynn Lovelock, Les Jecklyn and Major-General Stevenson, also left vast amounts of valuable procedural information. Under the direction of John Evans and Lynn Lovelock this information was catalogued and later recorded in a procedural precedents database. It was this material which formed the basis for the drafting of *New South Wales Legislative Council Practice*, published by the Federation Press in 2008.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> Rosemary Laing (ed), Annotated Standing Orders of the Australian Senate, Department of the Senate, Canberra, 2009.

for what it reveals of the evolving nature of the institution. The move of the Council from initial reliance on House of Lords practice, to House of Commons practice, to the adoption of some Australian Senate practices and increasing reliance upon its own body of precedents is evident. Also evident, perhaps surprisingly, is the influence of the Legislative Assembly's standing orders adopted and virtually copied, in the 1890's, but gradually customised to Legislative Council needs over the next 110 years until the next total re-write of the Legislative Council's standing orders, adopted in 2004.

The Annotated Standing Orders of the Legislative Council records in a readable and practical manner, and makes accessible, a rich store of procedural information. Some of this information records in a different context the same sorts of precedents referred to in New South Wales Legislative Council Practice. To Significant information, however, is new and additional to the precedents referred to in that book, and will provide an invaluable resource during the compilation of the second edition of New South Wales Legislative Council Practice, to be published in the next couple of years. Prior to the publication of that work, procedural information about the Legislative Council was not always easily accessible. The publication of the Annotated Standing Orders of the Legislative Council in the second half of 2016 will further enhance the transparency and accessibility of procedural information. The sharing of corporate knowledge and expert knowledge by those who have done the research and drafted the entries on each standing order, only possible because of their prior detailed procedural knowledge, has been an act of considerable generosity. The information to be published will be invaluable for clerks-at-the-table, Presiding Officers and members generally for years to come.

#### Conclusion

History is important. Parliaments are the location of the making of much history and of its celebration. Parliaments are also the repository of extremely valuable information about the history of the communities they represent. Parliaments also hold a significant amount of corporate institutional history and have a responsibility to make their collections and resources as publicly accessible as possible. This paper has outlined just five recent and current initiatives of the Parliament of NSW focussed on preserving, commemorating and sharing some of that important history. These initiatives illustrate how responsible engagement with our history can inform contemporary best practice and yield dividends for current and future practitioners as well as scholars of the past.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> Lynn Lovelock & John Evans, New South Wales Legislative Council Practice, the Federation Press, 2008.

#### **APPENDIX**

# PUBLICATIONS FUNDED BY THE SESQUICENTENARY OF RESPONSIBLE GOVERNMENT IN NEW SOUTH WALES 1856-2006 COMMITTEE

- 1. Michael Hogan, Local Labor: A History of the Labor Party in Glebe, 1891-2003 (Federation Press 2004).
- 2. Michael Hogan editor, A Lifetime in Conservative Politics: political memoirs of Sir Joseph Carruthers (UNSW Press 2005).
- 3. Michael Hogan editor, The First New South Wales Labor Government 1910-1916; Two Memoirs: William Holman and John Osborne (UNSW Press 2005).
- 4. Hilary Golder, Politics, Patronage and Public Works: the administration of New South Wales, Vol 1, 1842-1900 (UNSW Press 2005) and Peter J Tyler, Humble and Obedient Servants: the administration of New South Wales, Vol 2, 1901-1960 (UNSW Press 2006) (A joint project of the Sesquicentenary Committee and the State Records Authority of New South Wales).
- 5. A Guide to New South Wales State Archives Relating to Responsible Government (State Records Authority of New South Wales 2005).
- 6. David Pettigrew, *Homes for the People: public housing in New South Wales, 1940-1990* (published by the author 2005).
- 7. Andrew Moore, Francis De Groot: Irish fascist, Australian legend (Federation Press 2005).
- 8. JM Bennett, Sir James Martin: Premier and Chief Justice of New South Wales (Federation Press 2005).
- 9. JM Bennett, Colonial Law Lords: the judiciary and the beginning of responsible government in New South Wales (Federation Press 2006).
- 10. David Clune and Ken Turner editors, *The Premiers of New South Wales, 1856-2005*, 2 vols. (Federation Press 2006).
- 11. David Clune and Gareth Griffith, Decision and Deliberation: the Parliament of New South Wales, 1856-2003 (Federation Press 2006).
- 12. Paul Davey, The Nationals: the Progressive, Country and National Party in New South Wales 1919 to 2006 (Federation Press 2006).
- 13. Clive Beauchamp, Parliament, Politics and Public Works: a history of the New South Wales Public Accounts Committee 1888-1930 (NSW Parliamentary Library 2006).
- 14. Steve Chase, You didn't get it from me: a reporter's account of political life in New South Wales from 1988-2001 (ABC Books 2006).
- 15. Anna Doukakis, *The Aboriginal People, Parliament and "Protection", 1856-1916* (Federation Press 2006).
- 16. Jim Hagan editor, *People and Politics in Regional New South Wales, 1856-2006*, 2 vols. (Federation Press 2006).
- 17. Kevin Rozzoli, Gavel to Gavel: an insider's view of parliament (UNSW Press 2006).
- 18. Ken Turner and Michael Hogan editors, *The Worldly Art of Politics* (Federation Press 2006).
- 19. Marian Simms, From the Hustings to Harbour Views: electoral institutions in New South Wales 1856-2006 (UNSW Press 2006).
- 20. Deborah Brennan and Louise Chappell editors, "No fit place for women"? Women in New South Wales Politics 1856-2006 (UNSW Press 2006).
- 21. Rodney Smith, Against the Machines: minor parties and independents in New South Wales 1910-2006 (Federation Press 2006).
- 22. Terry Irving, The Southern Tree of Liberty: the democratic movement in New South Wales before 1856 (Federation Press 2006).
- 23. Peter Cochrane, Colonial Ambition: foundations of Australian democracy (Melbourne University Press 2006).

- 24. Anne Twomey, *The Chameleon Crown: the Queen and her Australian Governors* (Federation Press 2006).
- 25. Eamonn Clifford, Antony Green and David Clune editors, *The Electoral Atlas of New South Wales 1856-2006* (Department of Lands 2006) (A joint project of the Sesquicentenary Committee and the Department of Lands. As part of this project, a grant was given by the Committee to the NSW Parliamentary Library to restore and conserve its historic collection of electoral maps).
- 26. Michael Hogan editor, Labor Pains: early conference and executive reports of the Labor Party in New South Wales, Vol. One (Federation Press 2006).
- 27. Max Thompson, *The Seeds of Democracy: early elections in colonial New South Wales* (Federation Press 2006).
- 28. George Winterton editor, State Constitutional Landmarks (Federation Press 2006).
- 29. Michael Hogan, Leslie Muir and Hilary Golder editors, *The People's Choice: electoral politics in colonial New South Wales* (Federation Press 2007).
- 30. David Clune and Ken Turner editors, Writing Party History: papers from a seminar held at Parliament House, Sydney, May 2006 (NSW Parliament 2007).
- 31. Ian Hancock, *The Liberals: a history of the NSW Division of the Liberal Party, 1945-2000* (Federation Press 2007).
- 32. Michael Hogan editor, Labor Pains: early conference and executive reports of the Labor Party in New South Wales, Vols. Two and Three (Federation Press 2008).
- 33. David Clune and Ken Turner editors, *The Governors of NSW*, 1788-2010 (Federation Press 2009).
- 34. Anne Twomey, The Australia Acts: Australia's statutes of independence (Federation Press 2010).
- 35. David Clune, 'The Development of Legislative Institutions in NSW 1823-1843', Australasian Parliamentary Review, Vol. 25, No. 2, Spring 2010; '1843: The Year It All Began', Australasian Parliamentary Review, Vol. 26, No. 1, Autumn 2011.
- 36. JM Bennett, Reluctant Democrat: Sir William Denison in Australia 1847-1861 (Federation Press 2011).
- 37. David Clune and Rodney Smith editors, From Carr to Keneally: Labor in office in NSW 1995-2011 (Allen and Unwin, 2012).

### **ON-LINE PROJECTS**

- 1. The Mitchell Library put a guide to the papers of over 100 New South Wales Parliamentarians on its website.
- 2. In conjunction with the New South Wales Parliament, an on-line biographical register of former Members has been created.
- 3. The reports of Parliamentary Debates published in the *Sydney Morning Herald* from 1843 to the establishment of *Hansard* in 1879 plus early *Votes and Proceedings* and *Journals* of the Houses have been put on the Parliament's website.
- 4. The New South Wales Parliament is also hosting Antony Green's data base of candidates and results for New South Wales elections since 1856, originally prepared as part of the *Electoral Atlas of New South Wales 1856-2006* project. All results have been checked from original sources and many notes added to explain interesting or unusual events.
- 5. As part of the Australian Women's Archives project, the National Foundation of Australian Women has created an on-line data base giving details of over 700 women candidates for the New South Wales Parliament.

- 6. An enhanced New South Wales section was created on Professor Campbell Sharman's electoral data base on the University of Western Australia website.
- 7. An annotated list of theses on NSW politics and history was compiled which is on the University of Wollongong website.