

# Media Release

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Thursday 29 August 2019

## Unlock Macaria's doors to learn about Camden's heritage

Allow yourself to get lost in the stories, history, artwork and culture of the Camden area at **Macaria on Saturday 7 September**, as part of Council's *Unlock Camden* celebrations.

The forecourt will be buzzing with the inaugural **Community History Open Day, 11am-4pm**. The event, which Council is running in partnership with the Camden Heritage Advisory Committee, will celebrate the history of the region's community groups and organisations that intertwine to create the unique story of the Camden area. Residents will have the opportunity to unlock stories of the region's history and discover initiatives, places and events they never knew existed.

It will also include the first **#mycamdenstory exhibition** – which the community can get involved with. Residents are invited to share images on social media that showcase their Camden story and use the hashtag #mycamdenstory. The images can be a location, event, a memory of the past – whatever ties them to the Camden region. They will be printed and displayed on the hitching post, just outside the Gallery, as part of the exhibition

Residents who don't use social media can still have their photos included in the exhibition by printing their photo, in A4 size, and dropping it off to Sarita's Collective Emporium, any time before Saturday 7 September.

Mayor of Camden, Cr Theresa Fedeli, said the **Camden Heritage Walking Tour** would also be relaunched on the day, with a special *Unlock Camden* theme.

"This walking tour is usually self-guided, and you follow a brochure around to 25 different historical sites and points of interest across Camden," Cr Fedeli said.

"The relaunch will be fantastic because members from the Camden Historical Society will actually be leading the tours throughout the day. Given the recent upgrades in the Camden Town Centre, it's a great way for residents to get reacquainted with the area.

"And residents can make this experience their own. They might like to start with the guide and then stop for lunch or some shopping along Argyle Street. They can then complete the tour at their own pace, following the brochure."

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**Alan Baker Art Gallery's spring exhibition**, which officially opens on Thursday 5 September, will also be in full swing. It continues to celebrate local artist, Alan Baker, and his stories of family, community, scenes and love – each capturing history. It will be on display until Sunday 1 December and will include three main features:

- *Local Landscapes*, reflecting Baker's love of the Macarthur region;
- *Flora*, containing his accomplished floral paintings; and
- *A Model Wife: A Model Life*, highlighting Baker's wife and model of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, Marjorie.

The day will be complete with entertainment and live music to enjoy and a sausage sizzle lunch available for purchase.

*Unlock Camden* will celebrate History Week, which runs from 31 August to 8 September. There are lots of other events scheduled as part of this project, aimed at providing residents with the opportunity to learn about the heritage of the Camden district, which is as old as Australia itself.

For more information on the events at Macaria, visit [camden.nsw.gov.au](http://camden.nsw.gov.au) and search 'Unlock Camden'.

For the events scheduled at Camden Library, visit [library.camden.nsw.gov.au/events](http://library.camden.nsw.gov.au/events)

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