

Media Release



***FAR Out!* NSW Governor heading to Casino**

17 May 2016

His Excellency General The Honourable David Hurley AC DSC (Ret'd), Governor of NSW will be a surprise guest for 150 students when the State Library of NSW's popular *FAR Out! Treasures to the Bush* learning program visits Casino Public School on 20 May 2016.

The State Library's dynamic *FAR Out!* program gives primary students in far-flung places across NSW the opportunity to get up and personal with significant historic objects.

In addition to meeting the Governor of NSW in person, students will learn about the role of the Governor and previous Governors including Governor Arthur Phillip, the first Governor of NSW, and Governor Lachlan Macquarie.

The Governor said: "I'm thrilled to be part of the State Library's *FAR Out!* program which is heading to Casino for the first time. I will be talking with students about what it's like to be Governor of NSW, and share fascinating stories about my predecessors."

The Governor will show the students a selection of his personal medals as well as objects from Government House's collection. Mrs Hurley, who will be joining the Governor for this special event, will discuss official functions at Government House while showing students a contemporary dinner setting used today at Government House.

Deputy Premier of NSW and Minister for the Arts, Troy Grant, welcomed the Governor's special participation in the Library's valuable *FAR Out! Treasures to the Bush* program, which has reached 20,262 students in regional areas across the state.

"I'm delighted that the Governor is participating in the *FAR Out!* program, and I'm sure that meeting the Governor will be something that the students will always remember."

"Since the beginning of 2014, 332 schools have enjoyed the Library's popular *FAR Out!* regional outreach program, and I'm thrilled that even more students in regional communities will get to experience some amazing items related to the discovery and exploration of our nation," Mr Grant said.

The *FAR Out!* program is just one of the unique learning services the Library offers students and teachers, with extensive online services and learning resources available to all on the Library's website at <http://www.sl.nsw.gov.au/learning>

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“We’re adding more and more riches to our website every day, and providing remote access to our extensive heritage material through digitisation, online resources and video conferencing, but actually seeing these original and unique historic items has a special appeal!” said NSW State Librarian, Alex Byrne.

“The State Library is committed to giving regional and remote communities of NSW the opportunity to experience some of the original documents of our nation, and hopefully inspire their interest in Australian history,” Dr Byrne said.

The State Library’s Learning team will run fun and interactive activities with students using a selection of landmark Australian treasures from:

State Library of NSW collection

- A letter from Governor Arthur Phillip, the first Governor of NSW, to the Marquis of Lansdowne, 3 July 1788, and
- Memoranda and letters from Governor Lachlan Macquarie’s journals from the late 18th and early 19th centuries.
- A seating plan for a Vice Regal dinner at Government House, ca. 1815

Government House Sydney collection

- Governor Hurley’s personal insignia and medals, and those belonging to Governor Woodward;
- A Ceremonial Sword, scabbard and lanyards belonging to Governor Rowland; and
- A place setting for a Vice Regal dinner at Government House

For more information about *FAR Out! Treasures to the Bush*, please contact Learning Services, State Library of NSW, on (02) 9273 1778 or learning.library@sl.nsw.gov.au.

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