

## **My Car Club visit to the old Female Orphan School at Parramatta on 11 September 2024.**

The MCC Events Director declared “It’s time” for a visit to the historic Female Orphan School in Rydalmere. Frances, our tour guide, was most informative. The Female Orphan School is one of the most historic buildings in Sydney having opened in 1813, part of the vision of Governor King to care for the young women of the colony.

The institution opened to boys in 1850 and became a psychiatric institution in 1888. By the 1980s it was derelict.



The site was taken over by Western Sydney University in 1993 and the historic buildings were restored this century. They now house the Whitlam Institute, the Gough Whitlam archives and the Margaret Whitlam Galleries.

The restoration work on the old buildings is most impressive. They have allowed the various layers of the old building to display its uses over the centuries and to also allow its modern use.



Nineteen members and their cars were in attendance. This included Bob's lovely red Triumph TR4A, Ken and Karen's Ford Prefect van, Peter and Rosie's Morris Minor, two Mercedes SLs of the R107 series, Lofty's Mercedes 560SEC and some newer cars.



Lunch was at the nearby Boiler Room Café which was very good and well-priced.

Writer of the day: **Colin Bard.**