



Windsor House

A ghostly experience

The following is an extract from *Ghosts of Our Pioneers: Investigations into the Paranormal* by Mary Broadhurst. When this part of the story was written, Mary followed the Spookspotters around to write this book, she has since become an official team member as a researcher and also conducts ghost tours at Como House based on the findings there.

Walhalla is known for its paranormal activity, although there was little said about Windsor House. However, its spooky reputation is quickly making up for lost time. Over the years there have been reports from owners and visitors about locked doors opening and

opened doors locking of their own accord. Whenever a male adult sleeps in one particular bedroom (the snoring room adjacent to the Aberfeldy suite) situated on the first floor, the door locks trapping the occupant inside, yet opens easily for women.

A little girl has been seen standing by the top, left-hand window looking out onto the street. The apparition has been seen numerous times from locals and visitors from outside of the building.

A presence, not initially known until the Spookspotters uncovered her identity, is often described as a housemaid who was in charge of the running of the household. It is claimed by some locals that it is this lady who makes her dislike

of smokers known. Whenever someone flicked the butts of cigarettes anywhere outside of the house it apparently annoyed the ghost so much that she got into the habit of knocking the butts out of the smokers' hands. The butts always managed to land quite a distance away, and then roll away into the drain. Some of the locals believe the sightings are that of two separate ghosts.

People have said that they heard furniture being dragged across the floor when they were walking down the street. This happened when the building had fallen into ruin, and the owners of that time were renovating. The odd thing was that there were no floorboards in the area where the noises emanated from at the time; the floor was bare earth so how could such a noise be made? Tools that were laid at workers' own feet while renovating suddenly went missing, only to be found out in the garden after the owners of the mislaid tools went looking for them.

I arrived at Walhalla with my sisters on Saturday 1 March 2008. We booked into the Windsor House as a perfect way to spoil ourselves a little. Lugging bags up the stairs, we headed to our rooms. As soon as I reached the bedroom's



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