



History NEWS

Issue No. 254 February 2005

Royal Historical Society of Victoria

START the NEW YEAR in Collins Street . . .

RHSV Talk and Excursion – 8th and 13th February See page 3 for details



History News – Editorial Assistant Required

A volunteer with ability and interest in editorial work is needed to work with the new Executive and Development Officers to produce the Society's newsletter: History News. It is likely that about six days a month (January to November) would be needed for the prompt publication of the monthly newsletter from February to December. Contact Kate Prinsley (E.O.) or Judith Buckrich (D.O.) at the Society as soon as you are able.

Key Appointments: Kate Prinsley and Judith Buckrich

In considering the role of RHSV Executive Officer, Council decided on a change of focus. Instead of a part-time curator for the valuable collection, it was decided to seek an administrator with curatorial and collections experience, supported by a part-time Development Officer to organise fund-raising and stimulate membership.



KATE PRINSLEY, our new Executive Officer, is an honours history graduate from the University of Melbourne, with a diploma in museum studies and seven years experience as the foundation director of the Florence Nightingale Museum in London. She was an active participant in the health museum field, and in 1992 won the Top Marketing Award of the London Tourist Board. After returning to Australia, Kate was co-ordinator of the Port Melbourne Festival, 1994–5, and Cultural Development Co-ordinator for the City of Glen Eira during 1996. She is currently studying Arts Administration for an MA at RMIT.

Kate is returning to the workforce now that the younger of her two children is at school. She enjoys working with volunteers and is excited by the prospect of bringing together her strong interests in Australian history and collection management.



JUDITH BUCKRICH has cut short her term on Council to become Development Officer. She is a very well known author with six books to her credit. She chairs the International PEN Women Writers' Committee and has been President of the Melbourne Centre of PEN for ten years. Many will know her *Melbourne's Grand Boulevard: the story of St Kilda Road*, and be aware of other historical work with The Docklands Authority as well as her forthcoming book on Collins Street.

Judith is deeply committed to the promotion of history, especially through RHSV and its network of affiliated societies. She is a live wire.

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Eurekared

RHSV President Weston Bate reports on the recent 150th anniversary of the storming of the Eureka Stockade.

The anniversary was celebrated colourfully and comprehensively, with something for everyone, though at the centre of the government's plan was serious consideration of the meaning of democracy.

For me there were two high points, both deeply moving.

The first was the speech by José Ramos Horta at the Ballarat University Conference, during which he outlined eloquently the issues facing the East Timorese in their struggle for independence. Most effectively he displayed the 'heart-set' which led him, like Nelson Mandela in South Africa, to forgive those who had persecuted him and killed many of his family.

The second imperishable memory is of hundreds of lanterns carried into the dawn – beads of light strung out for a kilometre on the route the soldiers took from the government camp to the improvised stockade. Not far behind it was the special pre-dawn performance of 'Blood on the Southern Cross' at Sovereign Hill, where misty atmospherics heightened the drama.

At the Ballarat Fine Art Gallery, where the original flag demands pilgrimage, both for its beauty and meaning, an exhibition entitled 'Eureka: contested memories' used pictures,

sculptures, objects and documents to show how the tragedy has been portrayed and interpreted.

Interpretation is a sticking point. I find it hard to believe that, after all the scholarship that has been devoted to the diggings situation and official behaviour, there should be any doubt that legitimate protest was pushed into rebellion. What is often missing is an appreciation of the quality of the diggings community and their genuine grievance, long protested peacefully against the tyranny of the administrative set-up. I say community because we know that long-term partnerships between diggers and the storekeepers who financed them were the means of overcoming the extraordinary challenge of the deeply buried gold streams. I say tyranny because it is well established from the archives that the Ballarat officials were corrupt and overbearing and that the governor was determined to put down any resistance to his authority, regardless of the needs of the people.

I enjoyed especially the opportunity to express my viewpoint at our own, very successful Bicentennial Conference at Ballarat. Anniversaries like Eureka give historians the opportunity to be taken seriously. We should make the most of them.

EUREKA 150 RHSV BIENNIAL CONFERENCE

19–20 NOVEMBER 2004, BALLARAT

This splendid conference was organized by History Victoria Support Group and the Ballarat Historical Society. Some sixty participants were treated to rich offerings in an environment redolent with visual reminders of events 150 years ago.

On Friday, Roger Trudgeon and the excellent volunteer guides at the Gold Museum took groups around the museum and behind the scenes. This was an instructive experience both in terms of museum problems and practice, and as a broad introduction to Ballarat and gold. The day was completed with dinner at the Charlie Napier Hotel in Sovereign Hill followed by the sound and light show, 'Blood on the Southern Cross', which combines gripping entertainment with substantial history.

The conference met at the Charlie Napier next morning for papers from Weston Bate, Anne Beggs Sunter and John Molony. Weston Bate addressed the significance of the Ballarat Reform League and engaged participants in his own long wrestle with the Eureka story and the broad Ballarat battle against government oppression. Anne Beggs Sunter gave a fascinating discussion of the Eureka Flag and the many and continuing twists to the story. John Molony gave the Ian Woodroffe Memorial Lecture – in this case, a personally passionate account which emphasized the sacredness of the event and site.

Following the seminar, participants were able to view the portrayal of Eureka at the Eureka Centre, the Eureka Flag in its very special place at the Ballarat Fine Art Gallery, a nice follow-up to Anne Beggs Sunter's talk, assisted by gallery guides. Then to the Old Ballarat Cemetery, guided by members of the Ballarat and District Genealogical Society. There's no better testimony to the contests over Eureka memory than the monuments to Eureka 'diggers' and soldiers.

This was a first-rate conference marked by brilliant organization – thanks especially to Joan Hunt. The sessions were interesting and gave conference members the opportunity to share their own experiences in the history movement.

Don Gibb, RHSV Councillor

Society receives local history grant

A proposal by the Society to produce a brochure about Victoria's historical landmarks gained a favourable response of \$9334.00 from the Local History Grants panel. Producing the brochure will be one of our major projects for 2005.

Below: Joan Hunt, Convenor of HVSG and Rod Benjamin, Treasurer, RHSV receive the award from John Thwaites MP, Minister for Victorian Communities.



LECTURES

In 2005 the evening lecture series (February to November) will be on the second Tuesday of the month instead of the third Tuesday, the latter dates being set aside for monthly Council meetings. Occasional lunchtime lectures can be on any Tuesday. Check the What's On timetable on the back page of History News and/or the Calendar of Events in the quarterly flyers.

Lectures are free to members, and \$5.50 for non-members. They are held at the RHSV premises, entry from William Street.

FEBRUARY LECTURE

Collins Street Culture

Speaker: Dr Judith Buckrich

Date: Tuesday 8th February, 5.45pm (tea/coffee from 5.15pm)

From the research for her impending book, *Collins Street, Melbourne: A History*, Dr Buckrich will highlight the richness of Victoria's cultural life - artistic, literary, musical and intellectual - which has found a focus in Collins Street. The topic will engage wide interest on its own account, and make an excellent introduction to the Collins Street walk on the following Sunday.

MARCH LECTURE

Traditions in Multicultural Food

Speaker: Dure Dara

Date: Tuesday 8th March, 5.45pm (tea/coffee from 5.15pm)

This renowned Melbourne restaurateur will speak from her long interest in preparing and serving food and the part it plays in cultural tradition. Sampling the delights of her EQ restaurant at Southbank will be an optional extra.

EXCURSIONS

Collins Street Culture

Date: Sunday 13 February 2005

Time: 10.00 - 11.30 am approx

Cost: \$15 (members)
\$20 (non-members)

Come with us on a Sunday morning walk. Peter Yule (biographer of Sir Ian Potter) and Judith Buckrich (author of *Collins Street: A History*) will be our leading lights into the historical significance of each site.

The tour will take in The Rialto (No. 497), the Winfield building (487), Olderfleet (471), Bank of Australasia (394), former Stock Exchange (380-92), ANZ Bank (388), AC Goode House (389), Collins House (360), Savage Club in Bank Place, Brunton Chambers (cnr Elizabeth St), Block Court and Block Arcade, Centreway Arcade, Melbourne Town Hall, City Square, Regent Theatre, Athenaeum, Baptist Church, former Georges, Assembly Hall, Scots Church, St Michael's Church, Dr Beaney's former rooms (139), 101 Collins Street, Athenaeum Club and Alexandra Club, Le Louvre, Melbourne Club, Oriental Hotel site (9) Grosvenor Chambers (1). We finish at Dr Howitt's corner at approx. 11.30 am, with the option of refreshments at a nearby café.



Meet: 9.45 for 10.00 am at the Rialto Towers, 497 Collins St - ground floor lobby near the assembly point for the Observation Deck.

Book: on enclosed What's On Booking Form; or telephone 9326 9288 or email: office@historyvictoria.org.au

Following the Tracks to Bendigo

Date: Thursday 3 March 2005

Time: 9.30am - 5pm

Cost: \$40 (members);
\$50 (non-members)

We were going by train for this daylong outing, but the line is partially closed for the Fastrail construction. Instead, a comfortable motor coach will take us to Bendigo, where we will visit the Making Tracks exhibition with its extensive regional Bendigo component in place. There will be side excursions to some significant sites and stations on the original Melbourne-Sandhurst line, hosted by local historical societies. The Society's own railway buffs will have a guide to the line on hand.

Morning and afternoon refreshments are provided, but BYO LUNCH.

Meet: outside Town Hall, Swanston Street at 9.15am to allow a prompt 9.30am start. Return approximately 5pm

Book: on enclosed What's On Booking Form; or telephone 9326 9288 or email: office@historyvictoria.org.au.



FORTHCOMING EXCURSIONS -

Details of the following planned excursions will appear in later newsletters:

7 April Thursday - All-day tour to Flinders and surrounds, with poetry and history and a picnic lunch in the lovely Merricks garden of our President.

21 June Tuesday - Performing Arts Museum

4 August Thursday - Bountiful Brighton

6 September Tuesday afternoon - Streets and Lanes Talk and Walk

15 October Saturday morning - Melbourne's Domain

7-11 November Monday - Friday.

Five days along the Middle Murray - Swan Hill to Mildura

New! Maxus Collections

The software for museums, galleries and historical societies

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maxus@maxus.net.au
www.maxus.net.au
(03) 9646 1988

Making Tracks – the tour

The Geelong Story

Making Tracks was displayed in the foyer of the Geelong Performing Arts Centre from 8 November – 2 December 2004.

It included the newly added “Geelong Story” panels with content provided by the Geelong Heritage Centre. Visitors to the exhibition were also encouraged to go over the road to see and learn more about Geelong railway history at the Geelong Heritage Centre. Both the Centres reported an increase in visitors during this period: GPAC are eager to host such an exhibition again. The RHSV has also received some additional stories for the Memory Album.

Many thanks to Jenny Lewis from the Geelong Heritage Centre and Cathie Gearon from the Geelong Performing Arts Centre for their support and assistance in making the first stop for Making Tracks outside Melbourne such a success.

The Ararat Story

Making Tracks opened in the Ararat Information Centre on Boxing Day, and has already received a good response. Content for the local panel was provided by Langi Morgala Museum and the Ararat Railway Heritage Museum. During January, both of these venues opened for additional hours in conjunction with Making Tracks.

I would particularly like to thank Dorothy Konig and the Ararat Historical Society members who run the Langi Morgala Museum; Alan Butt, the Ararat Railway Historical Society people who run the Railway Museum; and Joanne Seabrook of the Information Centre, for their fantastic coordination of contributions to the exhibition.

The Sandhurst Line Story

The exhibition will continue its tour reaching Dudley House, Bendigo, where it will be on display from 11 February – 14 March 2005. Members of the Bendigo Historical Society, Castlemaine and District Historical Society, Kyneton, Woodend, and Colbinabbin have already been enthusiastically searching their collections and encouraging others to provide me with content for the new panels for Dudley House. The Bendigo Historical Society is also seeking railway memorabilia from the region, and is devising a special program of talks and events.

If you would like more information about the tour, or would like to contribute, please contact me at the RHSV on 03 9326 9288 or at office@historyvictoria.org.au. Refer to What's On (p 8) for Tour Schedule

Judith Penrose

Project Manager, Making Tracks



Frank Broeze Memorial Maritime History Book Prize

A late alert to the closing date of 28 February 2005 for entries in this biennial award of \$2000, jointly sponsored by the Australian National Maritime Museum and the Australian Association for Maritime History. For nomination details, contact Senior Curator Lindsey Shaw, ANMM, Sydney (tel: 02 9298 3701; e-mail: lshaw@anmm.gov.au). Readers may be interested to know that the first award was to Marsden Hordern for *Mariners are Warned* (1989), and the second to Dr Leone Huntsman for *Sand in our Souls: the beach in Australian History* (2001).

Victorian Community History Awards

Applications for the Victorian Community History Awards close at 12 noon on Friday 25 February.

The Victorian Community History Awards are co-ordinated by Information Victoria with assistance and judging provided by the Royal Historical Society of Victoria. The annual awards seek to encourage works that contribute to the development and appreciation of the history of Victoria.

The award categories acknowledge the many varied formats in which history can be presented. Entries are judged on content and presentation with a view to encouraging innovative ways of recording community history.

Items submitted must have been completed between 1 January 2004 and 31 December 2004. Written evidence is required for the month of publication if entry is published.

Entries must be accompanied by the official entry form and must be sent to:

Information Victoria
Victorian Community History Awards 2005
3rd Floor, 356 Collins Street
Melbourne 3000

Entry forms can be downloaded from the RHSV website – www.historyvictoria.org.au or Information Victoria website – www.information.vic.gov.au or contact Information Victoria directly. Conditions of entry are listed on the back of the entry form.

INFORMATION SESSIONS for VOLUNTEERS

Time: 9.30 – 12 noon

Dates: Wednesday 9 March (repeated)
Friday 8 April if required)

The Collections and Research Committee is pleased to advise all volunteers and prospective volunteers in the RHSV Collections that practical workshops will be conducted on Wednesday 9 March at the Society's rooms, repeated (if required) Friday 8 April.

Topics to be covered include:

- manuscript indexing and transcription
- new databases available
- locations for new materials
- procedure guidelines and MAP requirements
- rights and responsibilities of an RHSV volunteer
- data-entry update

The Committee invites all volunteers to avail themselves of the opportunity to update their knowledge, meet new members of the team and discover new areas of the Collection. The information provided is essential for all working in the Collections area.

Book: please book your attendance through the Gerardine: telephone 9326 9288 or email: office@historyvictoria.org.au

Prahran Mechanics' Institute Victorian and Local History Library

140 High Street, Prahran (Melway 2L H12)
Ph: 9510 3393. Email: library@pmi.net.au

Open 9.30-4.30 Mon to Fri, 9.30-1.00 Sat. All welcome.

Catalogue: www.pmi.net.au
Inter-library loans available.



VICTORIAN HISTORICAL JOURNAL INDEX now ONLINE

As announced in a previous *History News*, the index to the Society's journal is now available electronically as the VHJ Database. Initially the VHJ Database could be accessed only on computers in the RHSV's library. Now it is available on the Internet through a link in the Local History Online section of the RHSV's home page (www.historyvictoria.com).

These notes provide background for using this reference tool, allowing you to have 'creative play' with the database

– probably the most productive way in which to learn its qualities and foibles.

What is it?

The VHJ Database holds 35,000 index entries, pointing to significant information about people, organisations, places, books, events or topics in the text of some 1000 articles and 750 book reviews published in the RHSV's journals since 1911. Over 550 portraits and 800 illustrations are similarly referenced.

This comprehensive database combines five printed indexes – two to the *Victorian Historical Magazine* (Vols 1–38, 1911–1967, Issues 1–150) and three to its successor the *Victorian Historical Journal* (Vols 39–70, 1968–1999, Issues 151–253). To these have been added the unpublished indexes to the *Victorian Historical Journal*, Vol. 71 and 72, 2000–2001, Issues 254, 255 and 256. For completeness, also included are titles and author references to articles and book reviews which have appeared in VHJ Vols 73–75, 2002–2004.

What is its value?

The VHJ is an important channel for improving and enriching the understanding of the history of Victoria. It represents the RHSV's commitment to the encouragement of historical scholarship. Besides references to the information, research and opinion contained in the pages of the journals, its index is a wonderful compendium of facts mostly about (but not restricted to) Victoria.

The VHJ Database builds on the print indexes prepared by E. M. Christie (Vols 1–25) and John D. Adams (Vols 26–72). It offers the particular value of computer technology to assist the researcher to gain access to the data within the journals as well as extra explanatory information which often enriches the entry.

Speedy and Efficient

By drawing the data together from five indexes the VHJ Database eliminates the need for the researcher to refer back and forth between separate volumes. A continuity of information and scholarship is provided. Searches are executed in a matter of seconds and these can be constructed in a variety of ways to bring together much information about one topic. As there is an ability to print the results of specific searches, individually designed indexes can be prepared by or for researchers. The technique of 'copy and paste' can be used to gather terms together, so saving typing time and avoiding the perils of mis-typing.

Complete

A particular feature of the computer software used to process the data is that it indexes every word in that information. Thus the computer form of the index has the potential to reveal

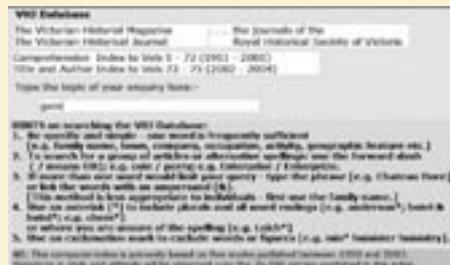
more information than its use in print form. No longer does the main heading control research or keyword – the computer program searches lower-order headings (sub-headings). For example: there is no key entry for *Crawcour*, but there is a reference in a sub-entry. Searching through the cumulated indexes in the normal 'eye-scan' manner would not locate this reference.

Up-to-date

Index data can be more quickly published in electronic format than hardcover. Thus the lag between index compilation and release to RHSV members and the public is reduced. (It has been the Society's practice to publish indexes to its journal every 10 years, but this has sometimes stretched to twelve years.)

How do you search the VHJ Database?

Whether using the database in the RHSV Library or on the Internet, the general search techniques are the same. After choosing the



VHJ Database, a Query Screen is presented into which a researcher types the area of interest. Hints are available on the Query Screen. Clicking on the Go button (or using the Enter key) presents a report on the screen.

The rules for searching the VHJ Database are exactly the same as those applying to all other databases developed for the RHSV using the DBTextWorks computer program. A summary of these is provided in a panel below the query box. Often the most specific and simple search will locate the desired entry. The additional techniques can be used to refine (reduce) a long report.

Search Term	Result	Vol.	p/pp	Year	Issue
'Blitch 'n Pups', sandbank in Pherry River	'Gem' stud on	Vol. 38	p/pp 31	1948	Issue: 151-152
Fawkes, Julia Pascoe	buys schooner 'Gem'	Vol. 3	p/pp 112	1904	Issue: 11
'Gem' (ferry)	Williamstown-Fort Melbourne ferry boat at Folk Museum, Swan Hill (illustration)	Vol. 23	p/pp 187	1991	Issue: 92
'Gem' (river steamer)	at Folk Museum, Swan Hill (illustration)	Vol. 39	p/pp 54	1968	Issue: 151-152
'Gem' (river steamer)	opening of, 1967, as Folk Museum unit	Vol. 39	p/pp 52	1968	Issue: 151-152
'Gem' (river steamer)	pioneer in Murray trade	Vol. 43	p/pp 982-3, 985	1972	Issue: 178
'Gem' (river steamer)	purchased and brought to Swan Hill for Museum	Vol. 39	p/pp 53-6	1968	Issue: 151-152
'Gem' (schooner)	of Batman, auctioned	Vol. 47	p/pp 208	1976	Issue: 188
'Gem' (ship)	...	Vol. 38	p/pp 154-5	1948	Issue: 128
Hogg, Captain 'Paddy'	brought 'Gem' on last journey to Swan Hill	Vol. 39	p/pp 53, 55	1968	Issue: 151-152

How do you interpret a report from the VHJ Database?

The end result of the search provided by the VHJ Database – the report – is very similar to that in the printed edition: a keyword, with often a sub-heading (sub-entry) to refine or extend the meaning, plus location references situating the occurrences of that item in the text.

Year and issue number have been added to the location references of volume, number and page in the printed volume. This extra information is useful for the efficient organisation search of the journal itself, for overcoming some confusing pagination in a few volumes of the VHM - VHJ, and for evaluating the usefulness of the reference.

Keywords and sub-headings are initially organised in strict alphabetical order (neglecting the leading articles: 'a' and 'the'). Volume, issue and page numbers in strict numerical order follow this. (The researcher using the VHJ Database in the RHSV Library can sort the report in any order required. This is not available on the Internet version.)

Variations in style and attitude will be observed throughout the index. This is unavoidable with a compilation primarily based on five works published since 1950. The index can only be seen as a pointer to information. The researcher will appraise the value of the reference according to their particular project.

Acknowledgements

The work of indexers E. M. Christie and John D. Adams (FRHSV) is gratefully acknowledged. Without their endeavours the production of this database would not have been possible. The RHSV's thanks are also extended to our volunteer typists (Faye Dale, Fleur Knowles, Angela Incigneri, Lindsay Mace, Tiffany Overend, Karin Ziennicki) who shared the re-typing of the four volumes of the indexes and to Maureen Goldie, proof-reader. Richard Barnden co-ordinated the project and prepared the electronic version. Vicki Court ensured its place on the RHSV website.

Report from HISTORY VICTORIA SUPPORT GROUP

There has been a bumper crop of items in Around the Societies lately (and this month is no exception). But as I read through the newsletters in order to compile the column this month, it occurred to me that the following information might be of use to some Societies:

- if your Society does not publish a newsletter, do consider putting out, even occasionally, say a one-page sheet of forthcoming activities and projects and current publications, with contact details and information that will help promote the work your members are undertaking, such as hours of opening and specific addresses of museums and heritage centres;

- if you do produce a newsletter, and do send it to RHSV, yet rarely if ever find your local news in Around the Societies, it will doubtless be because your newsletter does not contain information of the kind listed above. Some newsletters contain interesting historical articles but nothing about the activities and services their historical societies offer; indeed some do not even have contact details. Sometimes the information is limited to reports on activities and events already past.

The deadline for getting entries into Around the Societies is the tenth day of the preceding month, so for the April issue your newsletter or promotional item must be with me by 10 March, either by mail to RHSV or email to: joanhunt@netconnect.com.au. Because History News can only cope with about 40 entries, Societies may not have material included every month.

The History Victoria Support Group is very willing to assist societies wanting to develop or to improve their newsletter and/or promotional brochure. Contact me to arrange a workshop.

Joan E. Hunt, Convenor, History Victoria Support Group

Proposed Seminar Day Saturday 2 April 2005

HistoryVictoria comprises all RHSV-affiliated societies, and provides opportunities for members to get together at seminar days and other events at venues across Victoria. The aim is to allow everyone to have some access to shared experiences as well as specialised information from speakers. The History Victoria Support Group is a committee of the RHSV Council which plans the events. We plan one seminar per year in Melbourne at RHSV headquarters, and three in different regions across the State. The first History Victoria Seminar Day for 2005 is being planned for Saturday 2 April in the North Eastern Region, to be hosted by Yackandandah and District Historical Society. Its theme will be Publishing Local History. Set this day aside.

NEW MEMBERS

A warm welcome to all our new members.

INDIVIDUAL

Mardi Baker	Clifton Hill
Robert Clarke	South Melbourne
John Dowling	Melbourne
Elizabeth Downes	Lilydale
Leo Hawkins	Mentone
John Ireland	Eltham North
Joe Toscano	Templestowe
Angela Vary	Sandringham
Eileen Wright	Yarraville

HOUSEHOLD

Kathleen Trenfield	Sandringham
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ASSOCIATE

Basil Walby	Melbourne
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SOCIETY

Australian Family Tree Connections Gosford, NSW	
Good Old Days Working Farm Museum Rockbank	

LIBRARY

Macquarie University	NSW
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My Connected Community – MC2

More than 40 groups are now part of the RHSV My Connected Community Project, using it for 'self help' communication and publicity. Hands-on information sessions on the varied use of My Connected Community are still available in February and March, either at the RHSV or in regional areas where there is access to online computers, but sessions need to be booked as soon as possible – 9326 9288 or vcourtmc2@hotmail.com.au.

Victorian Local History Database

Five societies are currently contributing to listings for this database, accessible from the Local History Online section of the RHSV website. Other affiliated Societies who are producing computer catalogues of their collections can join the scheme. Contact me for more information.

Website Links

The 'Societies Affiliated with the RHSV' link on the RHSV website is proving a useful tool for researchers wanting to contact historical societies. However, the information needs to be up to date. If your information has changed, please contact us at the RHSV so we can update all details.

Cataloguing and database projects

Please contact me at the RHSV if I can help you in these areas.

*Vicki Court
IT Manager, RHSV*

AROUND THE SOCIETIES

ARARAT: Throughout January the Society hosted the RHSV travelling exhibition "Making Tracks" in the Information Centre at Ararat Railway Station, in conjunction with the Ararat Railway Museum. The Society's railway display is now in the 130 year old brick and bluestone Langi Morgala Museum which is open 1-4pm Saturdays and Sundays at 48 Queen Street, Ararat. Contact secretary on 5352 3502.

BALLAN: The Society's collection is being entered on their newly acquired DB/Textworks, which is compatible with the Moorabool Shire Council's newly established CHAD (Cultural and Historical Artifacts Database), an on-line repository of historical artefacts managed in collaboration with the various cultural and historical groups within the Shire. Browse the CHAD database on www.mconline.com.au. Contact: Catherine on 5368 1147.

BALLARAT GENIES: At 7.30pm on Tuesday 22 February Elizabeth Dowse, winner of the third prize in the A.I.G.S. 2003 Alexander Henderson Award will speak on her book: "A Jackdaw's Gleanings: The Dowse Family of Wiltshire, England and Wexford, Ireland: 15th to 20th centuries" which also covers settlement in Ballarat and Buninyong; in the meeting room at Ballarat Library. Website: www.ballaratgenealogy.org.au.

BENALLA: Being fully accredited under the Museum Accreditation Program the Society's Costume and Pioneer Museum qualified for a grant of \$3227 recently received from Museums Australia, to purchase archival boxes, a vacuum cleaner, a digital camera and a forklift. The current exhibition is titled "Through the Nursery Window", at the Museum, 14 Mair Street, Benalla. Email: benallamuseum@maxilink.com or phone 5762 1749.

BENDIGO: The RHSV "Making Tracks" exhibition celebrating 150 years of rail transport will be displayed at Dudley House, View Street, Bendigo from 11 February to 14 March with the addition of a Bendigo panel in the display. On Friday 4 February after refreshments at 5pm the meeting in the Campbell Theatre adjoining the Central Bendigo Library will start at 6pm with short talks by members: Carol Holsworth "The pauper paddock at White Hills Cemetery"; James Lerk "A historical surprise"; Ron Munro "The fastest train in the world"; Ruth Hopkins: "Lansell family cameos"; and Ted Coleman: "The development of a historical museum for Bendigo". The Society has purchased a pre-paid mobile phone to be used exclusively for Society business, with the number 0437 199 432 listed in the telephone directory. Email: colb@netcon.net.au.

BRUNSWICK: At the Counihan Gallery in Brunswick Town Hall an historically based exhibition will be held from 24 March to 17 April, presented on behalf of the Brunswick Community History Group, Moreland Council, and the Counihan Gallery. Titled "Brunswick On Show" it will include historical photographs of the area, pottery (including from Hoffman's Brickworks), artworks by local identities, and certificates of valour for local soldiers. There will also be talks, videos and CDs. Email brunswickchg@yahoo.com.au or phone 9387 1194.

BUNGAREE: An annual local history award is to be made, open to anyone who can write a factual account of school life, recreation, dances, churches, industries, or any other historical topic within the former Bungaree Shire and northern riding of the former Shire of Buninyong. Entries will become the property of the Bungaree & District Historical Society and eligible to be published in the Society's quarterly newsletter. Entries may be written, photographic, on CD or video and close on 31 May with the Secretary, PO, Bungaree, 3352. Winners to be announced in July – first prize \$100; second prize \$25, and certificates presented. Enquiries to Roy Huggins on 5368 9527.

CASTLEMAINE: Mt Alexander Shire Council has funded the purchase and laying of bricks for the Society's storage facility. The opening function for 2005 will be held on 7 February from 6.00pm onwards at the Gold Commissioner's Camp, Former Court House, 7 Goldsmith Crescent, Castlemaine, taking the form of a picnic with B.Y.O. everything. Website: www.castlemainehistoricalsociety.com or phone 5470 6072 on Tuesdays.

COBURG: On Wednesday 16 February Merv Lia, President of Preston Historical Society will address the meeting which starts at 8.00pm in the Coburg Library meeting room. The Society's Bluestone Cottage at 82 Bell Street is open the first Sunday of each month 2.00-4.30pm. A history of Sydney Road is being written by Laura Donati who welcomes stories, photographs or memorabilia – phone 9387 7570. Website: www.members.optushome.com.au/leburch

DONCASTER-TEMPLESTOWE: The Annual Garden Party will be held on the north lawn at Schramm's Cottage on Saturday 19 February from 7pm when a spit roast will be served followed by sweets and coffee, at a cost of \$21 per head. Please book by 8 Feb to Bill Ling on 9842 1470, for a lovely evening of good food and good conversation. Website: www.vicnet.net.au/thsoc/.

DROMANA: The next meeting will be at 7.30pm on Tuesday 15 February at the Museum in the Old Shire Office, Dromana. The Museum is open 2-4pm each Sunday and 10-4pm 1st and 3rd Tuesdays each month. Contact Secretary on 5988 6423.

FOOTSCRAY: A hardcover volume recording in pictures the development of Footscray and Yarraville has been published in a limited edition as a companion volume to an earlier pictorial history of Footscray. To purchase "Footscray & Yarraville A Pictorial Record of the Municipality from 1859 to 1988" send \$88 to the Footscray Historical Society, PO Box 6371, Footscray West, 3012. Details on website: <http://www.vicnet.net.au/~foothist/> or phone 9689 3820.

GEELONG: The Society had a very successful hosting with the Geelong Heritage Centre, of the RHSV travelling exhibition "Making Tracks". On Wednesday 2 February the guest speaker will be Wayne Berry, speaking about Frank Pratt and Geelong's motorcycles. Email: szada@zades.com.au, and website: www.zades.com.au/geelong.

GEELONG MARITIME: The Geelong Maritime Museum, at The Stables, Osborne House, Swinburne Street, North Geelong is open 10am-4.30pm, with Geelong maritime and naval heritage in the form of artefacts and relevant documents. Website: www.zades.com.au/geelong/maritime.html.

GLENTHOMPSON: The Society's museum and history centre, established nine years ago, is situated in the 1877 former Glenthompson Railway Station, opposite Mac's Hotel. Meetings are held at 8pm on the last Tuesday every second month. Details from secretary on 5577 8248.

HAMILTON: The meeting on Tuesday 8 February will take the form of a walking tour commencing from the History Centre at 7.30pm, where a short meeting and supper will be held upon return. The Society's History Centre is at the Mechanics Institute, 43 Gray Street, Hamilton; phone: 5572 4933; website: <http://home.vicnet.net.au/~hamhist/>.

HASTINGS: A general meeting will be held at 7.30pm on Monday 7 February at the Museum, Cnr Marine Pde and Skinner Streets, Hastings. The newly launched "Hastings, People & Places Vol. 1" is available from the Society for \$25. Website: www.vicnet.net.au/~dromana/hastings.htm or phone 9781 1141.

HAWTHORN: Ray Davison will speak on the history of Chalmers hardware store, the talk being held in the store in Burwood Road, at 2.30pm on an unconfirmed Sunday in February so contact Secretary on 9278 4667 for latest details.

HEIDELBERG: The Society is now on the phone at 9455 2130 and internet with email contact: heidhist@telpacific.com.au and website at <http://member.telpacific.com.au>. Also, a joint local history digitisation project with Yarra Plenty Regional Library has commenced with 100 of the Society's photographs scanned by the Library and placed in their catalogues on <http://www.yprl.vic.gov.au/> under Our Community, then Local History Project, then Heidelberg Local History Digitisation Project.

HUNTLY: The Huntly Heritage Centre, conducted by Huntly Historical Society, is situated in the former Shire Council Chambers, dating from 1867 but restored and refurbished in 2000, on the Midland Highway in the township of Huntly. The Society offers an annual award for a presentation of local history in two sections, one being open to any person and the other for primary school children only. The entry must be factual and pertain to any aspect of life within the districts formerly known as the Huntly Shire. Entries close in mid-August with the Secretary, 783 Midland Highway, Huntly, 3551 or phone 5448 8237. The Heritage Centre is open 2-4pm on the first Sunday of each month and has many research resources.

KYNETON: The Society covers Baynton, Carlsruhe, Lauriston, Spring Hill and Tylden as well as Kyneton. On Wednesday 9 February at 7.30pm Stephen West will conduct a guided tour of St John's Church of England at Malmesbury. For details phone 5422 2853 or see website: www.kyneton.org/hs/khs.com.

LEONGATHA: A tour of significant trees of Leongatha will be led by Dick Lester, to be held on the third Tuesday in February. For more details contact Secretary on 5668 6304. A new book by John Murphy, called "The Meeting Place: Leongatha Memorial Hall 1924-2004" is available from the Society, Box 431, Leongatha 3953 for \$15 plus \$3.45 p&p (see review this issue).

MALVERN AND PRAHRAN: The Stonnington Local History Services has two Local History Officers responsible for managing the Prahran and Malvern archives which include the records of the former cities of Malvern and Prahran and the collections of both the Malvern and the Prahran Historical Societies. The Local History Archives include photographs, books, manuscripts, ephemera, building plans, maps, subdivision plans, newspapers and general local history information. Phone Malvern HS: 9509 2534; Prahran 9509 9978.

MARYSVILLE and DISTRICT: During the Labour Day Long Weekend (12th, 13th and 14th March) the Society will present a photographic exhibition in Gallipoli Park Hall, Marysville, the theme of which will be "Guesthouses and Accommodation – Then and Now". Admission is by donation of gold coin. Enquiries: M. Kenealy, 5963 3552

MANSFIELD: The Society's publication "High Street Traders of Mansfield 1854-2000" is now available for \$25 plus postage, from PO Box 309, Mansfield 3722, or phone/fax on 5779 1094 or email mansfieldhs@iinet.net.au. The Society anticipates moving into the railway building mid 2005 with support from the Shire, and with a new photocopier provided by a Federal Community Services Grant.

MIDLANDS MARYBOROUGH: On Wednesday 16 February a Twilight Excursion will commence at 6.30pm leaving from Worsley Cottage, 3 Palmerston Street, Maryborough. Worsley Cottage celebrated its 110th birthday in October. Website: <http://home.vicnet.net.au/~mbhs/>

MONT DE LANCEY: Throughout February a Quilt Show will be held at Mont de Lancey Historical Home & Gardens, Wellington Road, Wandin, which is open throughout the year from Wednesdays to Sundays 10am-4.30pm for a guided tour of the house and gardens, and refreshments at Martha's Tearooms. Website: <http://montdelancy.org.au>

MONTRÖSE: The Society's new on-line catalogue is up and running on www.erl.vic.gov.au which is the Eastern Region Library Network webpage; under "Family and Local History" will also be found the collections of Knox and Ringwood Historical Societies. Production of "Montrose Memories", the Society's newsletter, is sponsored by several local businesses and the Local Member for Kilsyth. Contact: 9728 2170.

MORNINGTON: A Ghostly Supper in the Library will be held at 7.30pm on Wednesday 9 February, when stories about ghosts on the Mornington Peninsula will be told, at the Library in Vancouver Street. Storytellers will be admitted free; all others \$5 including supper. "Mornington Peninsula Railways and Their Communities" is available for \$25 from the Society at PO Box 71, Mornington, 3931 or phone secretary on 5989 2219.

NARRE WARREN: A general meeting will be held at 8pm on Wednesday 9 February at the Narre Warren Library meeting room, Overland Drive, Fountain Gate where the Family History Research Room is open Tuesdays 11am-3pm; Thursdays 7-9pm; and Saturdays 11am-3pm. The Society is developing the Casey Cardinia Combined Book Index with many search fields for more than a hundred local history books. Website: <http://home.vicnet.net.au/~nwfhg>.

NEPEAN: At 8pm on Friday 4 February Councillor Margaret Bell will speak on "Life as a Councillor", at the Museum in Old Melbourne Road, Sorrento. A Heritage Victoria grant of \$85,000 for urgent works to the Mechanics' Institute building has been approved by the Minister of Planning. Richard Cotter's "A Short History of the Nepean Peninsula – Sorrento and Portsea" is available for \$25 plus \$3 p&p, and Janet South's "George Selth Coppin – Father of Sorrento" is available for \$15 plus \$2 p&p to PO Box 139, Sorrento 3943. Website: www.nepeanhistoricalsociety.asn.au

PLENTY: Nillumbik Shire Council is supporting the heritage activities of each historical group within the Shire with a \$450 heritage support payment, plus a Cultural Development Grant of \$450 to write a history of the Plenty Primary School, as well as another \$500 as the Shire's recognition of the work of the Society. The obtaining of a permanent home for the Society is the aim for 2005. Contact: 9435 9117 or 27 Howell Road, Plenty, 3090.

RICHMOND: A number of very useful publications of general interest are available from the Society, including "Researching Your House in Richmond" (\$14.30); "Researching Your Family" (\$15); "Rural Remnants" by the Yarra Melbourne Local History Forum (\$20); "The Two Lives of Joseph Docker" (\$15); "The View from Docker Hill" (\$10), and others. Contact Secretary on 9427 1800, or the Society at Richmond Library Sundays 2.15-4.15pm. Website: <http://home.vicnet.net.au/bhs/>

SANDRINGHAM: Bayside City Council has provided funding towards the purchase of two transcription machines to enable oral histories to be taped, and the Society considering setting up a genealogy group. The State Government has allocated \$80,000 towards removing the guns from "Cerberus"; documents about the ship and its possible restoration have recently been donated. The Society's collection holds 5,000 photographs. Contact: 9597 0985.

SHIPLOVERS: The Society's excellent 120 page magazine "The Dog Watch" is sub-titled 'Sea Yarns, Memories and Maritime Research' from a talented and eclectic group of authors, and is a high quality publication available for \$15 plus \$2.50 p&p from PO Box 825 Port Melbourne, 3207. Phone 9593 1972

ST KILDA: On Sunday 20 February at 2.30pm in St Kilda Library community room Ronald McCoy from the St Kilda Gaelic Society will entertain the meeting with the music history and culture of St Kilda in Scotland, as part of the St Kilda Scottish Festival. Details from secretary on 9690 9584. Website: www.vicnet.net.au/hsosk

SURREY HILLS: On Monday 21 February at 8pm a Members' Own meeting will be held at the Chandler Room of the Neighbourhood Centre, 157 Union Road, Surrey Hills when artefacts such as paintings, drawings, carvings, sculptures, photos or books are produced to delight and intrigue all present, with a story to match. Contact Secretary on Sec: 9836 0245.

SYDENHAM: This re-established Society meets at the Sydenham Community Centre at 7 The Hub, Sydenham, on 3rd Wednesday each month and requests any memorabilia such as photos, diaries or stories of the district to add to the collection, noting that all acquisitions are recorded in a register. Financial assistance is provided by Brimbank City Council and the R.S.L., enabling the erection of a new memorial. Contact Secretary on 9390 3163.

VICTORIA POLICE: The Police Historical Unit is now situated at the Concourse Level, Yarra Tower, World Trade Centre, immediately behind Building "C" which was formerly the food court of the temporary Casino. Phone numbers remain the same: 9247 5213 and 9247 5214. Email contact: rmstav@alphalink.com.au or hdharris@ozemail.com.au.

WARRAGUL: On Sunday 20 March from 11am Bunyip Primary School will celebrate its 125th anniversary with activities and displays and the paving of an outdoor teaching area with engraved commemorative pavers which can be purchased by phoning 5629 5462. Society meeting at 7.30pm on Monday 28 February in the Old Shire Hall, Queen Street, Warragul. Contact Secretary on 5629 5833.

WAVERLEY: The first meeting for 2005 will be held at 8pm on Thursday 24 February in the Society's rooms above Mt Waverley Library at 41 Miller Crescent, where renovations and changes have now been completed. Website: www.vicnet.net.au/~whsvic or phone 9544 8792.

WOODEND: A History of Newham and Cobaw, "Echoes of the Past", by Jannisye Williams is available from the Society at \$29.70 plus \$5 p&p, which we believe is thoroughly researched, profusely illustrated, and a greatly entertaining read! Another great idea from Woodend is the Macedon Ranges Screen Saver, 35 stunning images from the district by local photographer Janet Hawkins, available for \$12 per disc

plus \$3 p&p or \$5 p&p for 2-3 copies. Website: www.vicnet.net.au/~wdhs or phone the Resource Centre 5427 3361 Wednesdays.

YARRA GLEN: A data base of former Yarra Glen residents is being compiled, while brochures and leaflets on Yarra Glen and Christmas Hills are being drafted and printed, displays are being set up and enquiries on family history answered; and the local hardware store is providing space for a photograph display. Contact Eric on etetlow@alphalink.com.au or phone 9730 1445.

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WHAT'S ON - Feb-April 2005

All RHSV events are held at 239 A'Beckett Street (cnr William Street) Melbourne, unless notified otherwise. Dates and venues of Making Tracks exhibition subject to change. Enquiries: 9326 9288

DATE	DAY	TIME	FUNCTION
8 February	Tuesday	5:45	Lecture: Collins Street Culture - Judith Buckrich
11-Feb	Friday	10:00 - 4:00	Exhibition: Making Tracks opens Dudley House, Bendigo [Note: Exhibition closes at this venue: 14 March 2005]
13 February	Sunday	10:30 - 11:30	Excursion: Collins Street Walking Tour
3 March	Thursday	9:00 - 5:00	Excursion: Following the Tracks to Bendigo
8 March	Tuesday	5:45	Lecture: Traditions in Multicultural Food - Dure Dara
9 March	Wednesday	9:30 - 12:00	Information Sessions for RHSV Volunteers [Note: Access to RHSV Collections unavailable until 12:30]
14 March	Monday		Public Holiday: RHSV Closed
19 March	Saturday	9:00 - 5:30	Exhibition: Making Tracks opens Alfred Deakin Centre, Mildura [Note: Exhibition closes at this venue: 17 April 2005]
25 March	Friday		Public Holiday: RHSV Closed
28 March	Monday		Public Holiday: RHSV Closed
29 March	Tuesday	11:00 - 12:00	Seminar: The RHSV Manuscripts Collection and its Use - Nonie Long
2 April	Saturday	10:00 - 4:00	HSV Seminar, Yackandandah: Publishing Local History
7 April	Thursday	9:00 - 5:00	Excursion: Flinders and Surrounds
12 April	Tuesday	5:45	Lecture: Holding onto Hope Jill Barnard and Karen Twigg
25 April	Monday		Public Holiday: RHSV Closed
26 April	Tuesday	11:00 - 12:00	Seminar-Workshop: Archival Box Making for Historical Societies
30 April	Saturday	11:00 - 4:00	Exhibition: Making Tracks opens 'The Workshop', Wangaratta [Note: Exhibition closes at this venue: 29 May 2005]
15 May	Sunday	10:00 - 2:30	RHSV Mammoth Book Sale

History

NEWS

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