



# History NEWS

Issue No. 284 Nov - Dec 2009

Royal Historical Society of Victoria

## Centenary Garden Party in Edwardian Style Day Excursion

Sunday 29 November

Weston and Janice Bate are our hosts for a stylish garden party and luncheon to round off our centenary year. It will be held at 'Imaretta' Merricks North on Sunday 29 November. Friends are most welcome. A touch of 1909 dress in hats, parasols, floral buttonholes, light colours, etc is recommended for the occasion, and period entertainment is being arranged.

A motor charabanc will leave Frankston railway station carpark at 10.30am with an experienced guide to alert you to the pioneers of the spectacular Peninsula. It will return us to Frankston in time for the 3.52pm train to the city. Best morning train departs Flinders Street at 8.58am arriving Frankston an hour later. Parking for private motors is available at Frankston for those not wishing to take the train. For those unable to join the charabanc party, parking is available in 'Imaretta's' spacious cow paddock. Directions will be available on booking. Please ask the chauffeur to arrange arrival from 11am, and to pack folding chairs.



The Centenary issue of the Journal will be launched on the day, and the Centenary address book will be available for extra orders and sales.

### Booking essential by Monday 23 November.

Please indicate any special dietary requirements.

Phone 9326 9288 or email

[office@historyvictoria.org.au](mailto:office@historyvictoria.org.au)

**Cost:** \$35 members; \$45 non-members [charabanc party]  
\$20 members; \$30 non-members [private motor]

## Heritage Grants announced

**On 12 October the Hon Peter Garrett AM MP, Minister for the Environment, Heritage and the Arts, announced the recipients of the Heritage Projects (Jobs Fund) 2009 -10 grants.**

The Royal Historical Society of Victoria welcomes the Federal Government's financial grants to numerous historical and heritage societies around Australia as part of the Jobs Fund.

"History is our collective memory, and the state of Victoria cannot afford communal dementia," said RHSV president, historian Dr Andrew Lemon. "Events such as the February 2009 bushfires which destroyed the collections of the Marysville Historical Society are proof of how important a sense of history is to the identity of our local communities."

The grants are directed at preserving collections, particularly at the maintenance of structures which house the collections. The RHSV itself will benefit from works on the windows of the historic art deco former Army Drill Hall in A'Beckett Street, Melbourne, which need repair to eliminate dirt and pollution from areas where priceless historic records are stored.

Victoria appears to have been strongly represented in the grants, which Dr Lemon says recognizes the strength of the local history network in this state.

"Local historical societies through the RHSV offer an expert network on historical matters," Dr Lemon said. "We hope that the Federal Government will continue and extend its interest in supporting this work, which is almost entirely voluntary and involves hundreds of societies and thousands of individual members across Victoria."

The RHSV also noted and commended the government on the care and attention that clearly had gone into assessing applications for the grants.

## VHJ – Special Issue

Enclosed with this month's *Newsletter* is your copy of the special issue of the *Victorian Historical Journal* (Vol80 No 2) that overviews the history, role, significance and future of the RHSV.

Based on the conference 'Rediscovering Victoria' (held last May), this is fascinating reading and a fine record of where we are as a Society, where we have come from and what might be in store for us. The Government of Victoria has kindly provided us with a grant for this issue's publication.



## Holiday Opening & Closing Times

We wish everybody a very happy and relaxing holiday season.

The RHSV will close on Thursday 17 December and open for 2010 on Monday 11 January.

Wonderful Christmas  
gifts ideas ..... see  
reverse of What's On.

**OBITUARIES**

**Leslie W. Carver** B.A. LL.B AAIL

Members were saddened to hear of the recent death of Les, former Councillor and one time Treasurer of the Society, at the age of 86 years.

Les was elected to the Council in September 1984 retiring in 2002.

A quietly spoken, unassuming man with a dry sense of humour. Councillors of the day appreciated his logical, progressive contribution to Council discussions and financial management.

He and his wife Lois were active supporters of Society activities in both metropolitan and country venues, where his advice relating to local society incorporation (when first introduced) was very much appreciated.

His largely attended funeral at St Luke's Mount Waverley was a tribute to the esteem in which he was held during his professional, church and community life over many years.

**Marjorie Tipping** BA, MA, D.Litt., MBE, FRHSV

One of Marjorie Tipping's last appearances in public was at the RHSV Centenary Conference in May this year. Just 92 she gracefully acquitted her duties when asked to cut the 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday Cake. Marjorie enjoyed the conference keenly and contributed to some of the questions about the early RHSV. For Dr Marjorie Tipping was the first woman fellow (1968) and first woman president (1972) of the RHSV. She was also the first woman to be awarded a D.Litt by the University of Melbourne. This latter degree (1990) was based on her extensive published scholarly works and by written examination.



*Athol Shmith & John Cato Photo, reproduced from VHJ, Vol 40, p70 (1969)*

Throughout her long life Dr Tipping was active in many fields. After graduating from the University of Melbourne with an arts degree in the late 1930s and marrying E.W.(Bill) Tipping, she worked as a part-time journalist for the *Sun News Pictorial*.

During World War II she took up full-time administrative duties with the Council for Industrial and Research. In the post-war years she had three sons and accompanied her husband to Harvard University where he took up a fellowship. These years in the USA, she has said, enhanced her already intense interest in history and art history. A great organiser, she joined various committees in the history and art fields such as the RHSV, the Committee of the Friends of the State Library and the Victorian Council for the Arts (where she was one of the advocates for the Arts Centre) and worked for numerous community organisations. These activities were awarded by an MBE in 1981.

Always busy researching and writing, Marjorie flowered as an historian in the 1970s and 1980s when several of her books were published including, *Eugene von Guerard's Australian Landscapes* (1975) *Melbourne on the Yarra* (1977) *Ludwig Becker: Artist & Naturalist with the Burke & Wills Expedition* (1979), and *Convicts Unbound: The Story of the Calcutta Convicts and Their Settlement in Australia* (1988). She also wrote a narrative for the Victorian Government publication, *William Strutt, Victorian the Golden* (1980). Marjorie Tipping's memoir of her years with the RHSV is published posthumously in the *RHSV Centenary Journal*.

Mimi Colligan

**Federation of Australian Historical Societies upgraded website**

The Federation of Australian Historical Societies upgraded website has been launched and can be accessed at:

[www.history.org.au](http://www.history.org.au). It is attractive and very easy to navigate and contains much information to assist historical societies with the work of caring for and promoting their collections, advocating and promoting their local heritage to their communities and tourists and researching and writing history. The FAHS Newsletter and E-Bulletin are also available at the site.

**The Australian Historical Societies' Support Group**

The online Australian Historical Societies Support Group was established through the Royal Historical Society of Victoria's My Connected Community (mc2) domain. It offers participating historical societies, like-minded bodies and individuals a variety of free, easy to use Web-based services which they can use to communicate with each other across the nation and the world on any topic that is of interest or concern to their organisations.

Features of mc2 include a forum, an events list, space for sharing files, space for sharing photos, a links page and a chat room.

Details on how to join the Group are available at the FAHS website at: <http://www.history.org.au>. Follow the link from the home page.

**New RHSV Council Member**

**Carole Woods** has been elected to Council to fill the role honorary secretary. Carole brings to the Council meticulous record keeping and committee organization skills, as well as a long association with the Royal Historical Society of Victoria. She is a Fellow of the Society and has been on the Publications Committee for 21 years. Carole has been a judge and advocate for the Community History Awards for nine years.

**VHJ INDEX Expands**

Our comprehensive index to the *Victorian Historical Journal* is the richer with the addition of about 1600 new entries which act as pointers to the information contained in Volume 79. Articles in the first issue were related to clothes lines and rotary hoists, the Harvester Judgment (1907), pioneer circus activity in Port Phillip, murder, mystery and controversy at colonial Castlemaine, the Brethren Community at Kyneton, the Field Naturalists' Club, Teresa Mary Wardell and Marjorie Lawrence. Also included were many book reviews. The second issue commemorated the centenary of women's suffrage with articles on: the 1908 Victorian Adult Suffrage Act, the early origins of women's suffrage in Victoria, The National Council of Women of Victoria, women's suffrage in 'frontier' Queensland, Vida Goldstein, Muriel Heagney and the ALP, Clara Weekes, 'Women's Time', Victorian women's organisations and female child welfare inspectors, women's social reform networks in Melbourne, women's political citizenship in Victoria, electing women and Mrs Ternente Cooke.

Again our thanks to John Adams for his continued commitment to the generation of these indexes and to Richard Barnden and Vicki Court for making them available to members, affiliates and the general public through our website.

**LOCAL HISTORY GRANTS**

Applications are now open for the 2009-2010 round of the Local History Grants Program. Administered by the Public Record Office Victoria (PROV) and funded through the Community Support Fund, the Local History Grants Program provides grants of up to \$12,000 to community organisations to support the cost of any project that preserves, records or publishes Victorian local history.

Applications close on Monday 30 November and guidelines and application forms can be found on the PROV website.

Further information: Public Record Office Victoria - <http://www.prov.vic.gov.au/lhgp/welcome.asp>

# Robert Law Exhibition

## February – April 2010

The RHSV's Images Collection holds just over 4000 glass (or lantern) slides. Of these 1100 are collectively known as the **Robert Law Collection**. The Society received the collection in the early 1930s.

In early February 2010 the Society will hold an exhibition of a selection of printed images from the **Robert Law Collection** either photographed by Law (many are signed) or collected by him. These will be supported by items from a private collection. The exhibited prints will feature the life, work, family and interests of Robert Law, so giving an insight into the social and cultural life in Melbourne and Victoria between 1890 and 1930. His collection of street scenes alone presents discerning study of the every-day life of the people of Melbourne during his lifetime.

Robert Law (1870 – 1930) was Chief Chemist, Assayer and Refiner at the Royal Mint, Melbourne. He was born in Scotland, educated at Glasgow University and in World War I commanded the Third Pioneer Battalion with the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel. Associated with the Volunteer Defence Forces for over twenty years and enlisting for the AIF in 1916, he served in France, being mentioned in despatches. Interestingly there are few slides of WWI. He travelled widely before and after the war. Besides being a keen photographer, he was interested in yachting, athletics, swimming and chemical research. He served as President of the Society of Chemical Industry of Victoria. He was President of the Brighton Soldiers Memorial Committee, being a long-time resident of Brighton. He is buried in Brighton Cemetery.

These slides, and other collections, are being progressively digitised thanks to a grant from the Ian Potter Foundation and the efforts of RHSV volunteers.



*Intersection of Collins and Elizabeth Streets, Melbourne, looking east, showing Alston's Corner (left) and the south side of Collins Street [RHSV Images Collection: GS-CS-31] Robert Law*



*Detail from "The Victorian Fleet" by A.V. Gregory 1888; watercolour on paper; mounted on canvas [RHSV Images Collection: ART-0317.]*

### THE WORK OF THE RHSV FOUNDATION 2009

The RHSV Foundation has been able to support the conservation of the Victorian Fleet Painting 1888 by AV Gregory. The painting is the only depiction of the Victorian fleet in 1888 consisting of Nelson, Cerberus, Batman, Fawkner, Childers, Nepean, Lonsdale, Victoria, Albert, Gordon, Commissioner, Lion, Gannet and Lady Loch.

Conservation of the painting will allow for cleaning, re-stretching and most importantly re-framing so that the painting can be regularly displayed in the RHSV exhibition hall.

Conservation work builds on work undertaken in 1986 but which we were unable to finish due to lack of finances.

Support of the Foundation enables the RHSV to take better care and plan for the future of its collections.

## Support the RHSV FOUNDATION

**The RHSV Foundation was established in May this year:**

**The aims of the Foundation are to:**

create a permanent home for history in Victoria; further develop and preserve the most extensive single information source on the history of Melbourne and Victoria; and promote the many wonders of Victoria's past to all Victorians.

**Write your place in Victoria's History**

To celebrate the RHSV's centenary year, the Foundation Founders program has been created to record and recognise the first 100 significant donors/bequestors to the Foundation.

**To become a Foundation Founder you can:**

- pledge a donation of \$500 or more; and/or
- leave a bequest for \$5000 or more

Each Foundation Founder will be recognised on a commemorative plaque which will be unveiled at a special ceremony once we welcome 100 supporters on board.

**To make a donation you can:**

Telephone: (03) 9326 9288

Direct Debit: ING Direct BSB: 923 100

Account No: 602 51556

Please include name with deposit and send an email confirming contact details to [office@historyvictoria.org.au](mailto:office@historyvictoria.org.au)

Cheque: Payable to RHSV

Post cheque to RHSV

Credit Card: Post details to above address or email to

[office@historyvictoria.org.au](mailto:office@historyvictoria.org.au)

For more information on the aims of the Foundation or how you can support it please 'phone the RHSV on 9326 9288



**BOOKS RECEIVED**

We note below relevant items sent to the Society. Interested groups or authors are invited to contribute to this valuable service to members in *History News* and through deposit in the library. Some items may later be reviewed in the *Journal*.

**Pictorial Mount Macedon, A Journey Through Time**

**Phyllis and Ian Boyd** (eds), Gisborne and Mount Macedon Districts Historical Society Inc., 2009, 128pp After a brief introductory history, this attractive book presented like an album reproduces photos, paintings and sketches drawn from the society's collection, arranged in topics. The bulk of the photos are of homes and guest houses, many of which have been demolished or burnt down. They emphasize Mount Macedon as an attractive place for summer residence from the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

**Significance 2.0, A Guide to Assessing the Significance of Collections**

**Roslyn Russell and Kylie Winkworth**, Collections Council of Australia Ltd, Adelaide, 2009, viii + 72pp., \$29.95 (plus postage)



A new and revised edition of the guide published in 2001 by the Heritage Collections Council. It explains the concept of significance, the assessment process, how to draft a statement of significance, and provides many examples showing applications of significance. A vital introductory publication for all those involved in collections.

**Possession: Batman's Treaty and the Matter of History**

**Bain Attwood with Helen Doyle**, Miegunyah Press, Melbourne, 2009, xv + 416 pp., \$54.99 This important book examines the context of the treaty drawn up by the Port Phillip Association when they tried to transfer Kulin land in the Port Phillip district to themselves in 1836 as well as the perceptions of the Kulin to the treaty. The government's repudiation of both the treaty and therefore of Aboriginal sovereignty and rights to land meant that the moral problem of dispossession of Aboriginal people remained. In Attwood's account, dealing with the moral problem in the period after the 1850s produced written and pictorial accounts about Batman and the treaty that worked to validate dispossession. From the 1930s, these stories have been widely challenged especially since the 1970s, but as Attwood shows, the Batman legends still exert a

powerful influence. A very substantial addition to our understandings of contact history as well as the use and abuse of history.

**A.W.H. Humphrey, A Voyage to Port Phillip and Van Diemen's Land with Governor Collins and Robert Knopwood, Port Phillip Diary October 1803-January 1804**

**John Currey** (ed.), The Banks Society, both 2009, 135pp., \$38 and 110pp., \$35 respectively. Humphrey, posted as a mineralogist, was part of the Collins' expeditions at Sorrento in 1803 and subsequently, Hobart in 1804. His letters home arranged as a journal provide the substance of the first of these attractive new publications. Knopwood was appointed chaplain to the new Port Phillip colony and like Humphrey accompanied Collins to both Sorrento and Hobart. An extract from his personal diary for the period at Sorrento is reproduced in the second in this series. Each contains an excellent introduction, valuable editorial notes and appropriate contemporary maps and illustrations. Hopefully, the first instalments of valuable additions to the early history of Port Phillip.

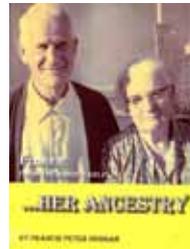
**Florrie From The Kings' Table**

**Francis Peter Duggan**, contact:

[oldfrankey@grapevine.com.au](mailto:oldfrankey@grapevine.com.au),

xii + 400pp. 2008, \$45

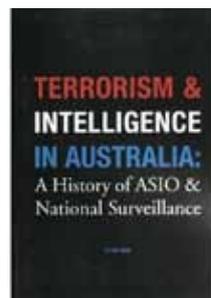
There can be few more extensive family tributes to a grandmother than this one. Florence Eva Coote (nee Hunt) was born in Cudgee in 1893 and died at Leongatha in 1988. This compilation gathers material about royal and vice-regal connections back to Henry III; early ancestral emigration during the 19<sup>th</sup> century; the fortunes of earlier generations in her family roots; Florrie's own marriage to Jack Coote, farming around Buninyong and their offspring of 5 children and later 24 grandchildren; and much more. The publication is assiduous, with careful identification and acknowledgement of sources and a comprehensive index.



**Terrorism & Intelligence in Australia: A History of ASIO & National Surveillance**

**Frank Cain**, Australian Scholarly Publishing, Melbourne, 2008, xii + 362pp.

The author is the pre-eminent historian



of Australian security agencies, especially ASIO, established in 1949. The 'War on Terror' has heightened public concerns about national security and therefore debate about the roles and performance of agencies like ASIO, ASIS and the Australian Federal Police. Cain argues that the agencies have been politicised in the past as they have been by recent governments. A substantial contribution to understanding the interplay between politics and surveillance.

**For King and Country: Those With a Shire of Metcalf Connection Who Enlisted in WWI**

**Ken James and Noel Davis**, Noel Davis, 18 Lofty Ave., Camberwell, 2009, iv + 281pp.

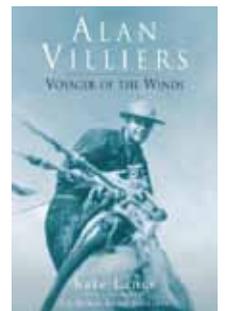


An assiduous compilation of material about enlistments but also war-related local events like farewells, welcome homes, news from the front, community support and celebrations of peace. These items provide headings under which material from local papers and other sources is grouped. There is considerable tabulation of those who enlisted in a form valuable to genealogists. It may be that research like this might better be published on the web where search engines can be used to help answer the broader questions that a study like this raises about its community.

**Allan Villiers, Voyager of the Winds**

**Kate Lance**, UNSW Press, Sydney, 2009, xii + 307pp., \$49-95

Villiers was born in Melbourne in 1903 and had a lifelong interest in sailing ships that was borne out in his shipboard experiences and adventures from the time he left home c.1920, demonstrated in his countless books and articles dating from the 1920s, and in his considerable efforts to restore old ships and maintain the skills of seamanship and shipbuilding that he admired. He died in 1982, a distinguished author, navigator, and celebrated authority on sailing ships with a considerable international reputation, partly gained through his writing for *National Geographic*, BBC broadcasts and appearance in Hollywood films like *Moby Dick*. The author constructs both the public life but also much of his private driven nature.



A New Exhibition at the Monash University Museum of Art which challenges the historian's discipline of using the photograph as evidence.

# PHOTOGRAPHER UNKNOWN

SUSAN FEREDAY | MARCO FUSINATO | DONNA ONG | FIONA PARDINGTON

PATRICK POUND | JACKY REDGATE | ELVIS RICHARDSON | FIONA TAN

Monash University Museum of Art | MUMA 16 September - 28 November 2009

Photography has always fascinated me as a medium because of its multiple and varied histories. It is not only an art medium, but has also been historically viewed as 'evidence' in realms such as science, documentary, and the vernacular. As a curator and writer working in the contemporary art world, I have always been interested in the intersections between art practice and these histories.

Found, or anonymous, photographic images and film footage from the everyday world and its archives are a fascinating subject for many artists. The snapshot, the amateur photograph, the flea market find, the film archive and the work of the anonymous, jobbing photographer have all provided material fodder, or acted as conceptual springboards for making new work. There has been a tradition of this practice since the early twentieth century art movements dada and surrealism, and it has experienced something of a resurgence since the shift from analogue to digital photography and film has gathered pace. Engaging with this material, artists enact a series of reversals, reprisals and re-workings – bringing the snapshot to the status of the fine art print, calling into question conventions of authorship, quality, the public and private, the nature of the archive and monumentality.

It seemed timely, then, at this moment between analogue and digital histories, to develop a group exhibition that brought together such practices. Featuring work by eight artists from Australia and overseas, the resulting exhibition charts a course through these encounters in the contemporary context. It is titled after Australian artist Jacky Redgate's series from 1980-3, *photographer unknown*. A *Portrait Chronicle of Photographs, England 1953-62*, which features photographs from the artist's family archive in London, taken on a Box Brownie camera in the 1950s and 60s. In this work, the artist has printed fifteen of these family album images at museum scale, framed them and exhibited them without further amendment.

'Photographer unknown' is an attribution in the language of the museum, a marker of indeterminate authorship. These words



Patrick Pound, *Photography by numbers 1990 - ongoing*, installation view. Photo: John Brash

express a divide between the named artist and the anonymous photographer, the professional and the amateur, high art and the vernacular. Of course, the notion of 'found' and 'anonymous' are categorisations that are in themselves up for examination. Redgate's work, in which the original photographer is not identified, encourages such questions, functioning as a point of origin for each of the works in the exhibition.

As *Photographer Unknown* moves from Redgate's key series through to more recent bodies of work, it retains a strong focus on collecting and editing as a mode of artistic practice. In such practices, photographs and moving images are largely considered as readymades – found objects, moved from their context of the everyday into the world of art. Whilst the level of intervention on these objects varies from artist to artist, the artist as gleaner lies at the core of this practice – the slow and careful gatherer and sorter who sees life in the dusty, leftover grains of the real and from them is able to generate new meaning, new insights. Adrift from their original contexts, the photographs and film fragments become objects of speculation, upon which we project our own histories and fantasies.

The face of the human subject returning our gaze presses upon us in several of the works in this exhibition, reminding us of the presence of the photographer behind the camera. This human presence is strongly felt in Patrick Pound's ongoing works *The photographers* and *Photography by numbers*, both of which originated in 1990. Pound is an artist collector, and these works draw upon his vast collection of

photographs and photographic materials, which he has collected and categorised over several years.

The *Photographers* is a collection of photographs in which the photographer's shadow is present and *Photography by Numbers* lines up photographs of people alone, and in groups of two, three, four and five. The accumulation of multiple and varied human subjects in these works is touching, their myriad faces and poses poignantly individual, yet part of a broader, more generalised humanity. Of course, it is not us as viewers that the subjects in these photographs address themselves to, but loved ones, husbands, teachers, uncles, friends, acquaintances ... photographers who are, to them, known and named. As such, Pound's photographs put us in an ambiguous relationship with these subjects, as our looking becomes entwined with the familial or romantic.

Another work, *News from the near future 2003*, by Amsterdam-based artist Fiona Tan, features fragments of film footage from the Filmmuseum, Amsterdam, focusing on water and our relation to it. Tan has reanimated this archival material through editing and a soundtrack featuring radio messages along with more abstract sound. The episodic narrative begins happily – children run into the sea down a pebbled beach, a crowd of swimmers jump from a bridge at the start of a group swim, then pulls back and forth, wave-like, between the tumultuous and the calm, the celebratory and the tragic: a dying whale slaps its tail against the side of a whaling ship in rough seas; the sun sets above glistening waters and people glide through the silent streets of an unidentified flooded town on small boats. We cannot directly locate the time or place at which each of these fragments take place and Tan's seamless editing folds time and specificity in on itself. In doing so, she finds a kind of poetry in the archive, as each of the artists in this exhibition has done in multiple ways.

**Kyla McFarlane**

Assistant Curator-Exhibitions  
Monash University Museum of Art

**HISTORY VICTORIA SUPPORT GROUP – RHSV  
SEMINAR DAY SATURDAY 21 NOVEMBER 2009**

To be held at the RHSV, 239 A'Beckett St, Melbourne

**Disaster Prevention and  
Caring For Your Collection**

- 10.00 **Registration** and cup of tea for those who have travelled from far afield
- 10.30 **Welcome by RHSV President (Andrew Lemon)**  
Introduction, reports, general information:
- 10.30 President, Royal Historical Society of Victoria – Andrew Lemon – welcome
- 10.40 Convenor, History Victoria Support Group Lenore Frost – introduction
- 10.50 Exec. Officer, Royal Historical Society Victoria, Kate Prinsley – RHSV news
- 11.00 **Presenter: Ballarat Gold Museum Curator, Roger Trudgeon**  
Roger will give tell us what happened in the 2007 Gold Museum flooding disaster, and what they learned, and also give an outline of the recently signed Memorandum of Understanding which forms a framework where Ballarat Collections Network members agree to assist each other, prepare for and respond to emergencies or disasters such as fire or floods which may endanger their collections.
- 30.30 LUNCH
- 1.30 **Panel discussion:** Caring for your collection  
Following on from the previous session, the discussion will centre on matters such as backing up your collection with digitisation, working with your local library, and storage options.
- 2.30 **Presenters:** Kate Prinsley, Joan Hunt, Lenore Frost, Vicki Court  
In this session we will focus on some basic good housekeeping for your collections. Everyone will be encouraged to participate with anecdotes, experiences, ideas, and solutions.
- 3.30 **Afternoon tea** - Closure of Seminar Day, and departure.

*(Costs: \$15 per head includes a light lunch and morning and afternoon tea. Please book through RHSV by notifying Ged by email office@historyvictoria.org.au or phone 9326 9288. Bookings will close Wednesday 18 November 2009.)*

**Blogs at the RHSV**

In this age of 2.0 everyone seems to be blogging and the RHSV is no exception. RHSV News – <http://rhsvnews.blogspot.com/> and also accessible from the front page of the website – provides information about RHSV events and other activities of interest to our members and may contain information that becomes available between issues of History News. Two blogs relating to information technology and cataloguing projects designed to assist members of historical societies are Information Technology and Local History – <http://itlochist.blogspot.com/> – and *Cataloguing Guidelines for Historical Societies* – <http://hscatguide.blogspot.com/>. Both these blogs are also accessible from the Affiliated Societies page of the RHSV website – [www.historyvictoria.org.au/societies.htm](http://www.historyvictoria.org.au/societies.htm).

Blogs allow instant publishing of information online rather than waiting for a more formal publishing opportunity. Readers of blogs can contribute comments to blog posts if they wish – for example in *RHSV News* a person attending a lecture may wish to add a comment about the talk. Most modern browsers will allow users to subscribe to specific blogs so that they can access a list of recent blog posts without having to visit the blog to see whether new information has been added. Online RSS readers such as Bloglines – [www.bloglines.com](http://www.bloglines.com) – can also list blog content. For additional information on using blogs check the blogs link in the blog, Information Technology and Local History. We hope that you find these communication resources useful and informative.

**150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Burke and Wills Expedition**

2010-2011 is the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Burke and Wills Expedition. The Royal Society of Victoria is co-ordinating a program of commemorative events. Community museums and historical societies are encouraged to mount exhibitions of any artefacts and objects related to Burke and Wills as part of the program. An Environmental Expedition is planned to follow the Burke and Wills track on the anniversary dates, and will link with community events. Community events or exhibitions can be advertised on the Royal Society of Victoria's dedicated website [www.burkeandwills150.info](http://www.burkeandwills150.info). For further information contact David Dodd at 03 9663 5259 [bandw@sciencevictoria.org.au](mailto:bandw@sciencevictoria.org.au)

**Maxus Collections****The software for museums, galleries and historical societies****Powerful and easy to use**

Find any item in your collection in seconds.  
Display images of colour or black & white photographs, paintings or original documents.  
Data entry sheets match standard cataloguing worksheets.

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Contact Maxus for free demonstration software or further information.



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[www.maxus.net.au](http://www.maxus.net.au)  
(03) 9640 8888

## AROUND THE SOCIETIES

This column is compiled by Lenore Frost on behalf of History Victoria Support Group using information provided by Societies either directly or contained in their newsletters. For the next issue please send details of forthcoming events by 10 January 2010 to lenore10@hotmail.com.

**ANGLESEA:** Meetings are held on the first Sunday of each month at 2 pm unless otherwise notified. The Museum is at 5a McMillan St, Anglesea and will be open during the Christmas holidays on Sundays 2 to 4 pm, or by appointment. For further information: email [noramor@tpg.com.au](mailto:noramor@tpg.com.au) or phone 03 5261 6239.

**ANGLICAN:** The 'Sydney Smith Lecture' will be held on Wednesday 18 November at 7.30 pm. The speaker will be Mr Ian Burk, on 'A E Floyd on St Paul's Cathedral - a den of iniquity festooned with crime'. For further information: phone 9818 4565.

**AVOCA:** A combined AGM, end of year break-up party and commemoration of the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Lamplough Rush will be held on the last weekend of November. If you wish to attend the dinner on Saturday 28 November, contact the society for further details: [tonyoshea@iinet.net.au](mailto:tonyoshea@iinet.net.au) or phone 5465 3744.

**BALLARAT GENIES:** The Genealogical Society will finish the year with a 'Show and Tell' and Quiz Night at a special End-of-Year supper on Tuesday 24 November at 7.30 pm. Meetings are held on the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of the month at the Ballarat Central Library, Doveton St North, Ballarat. Enquiries: [bslater@ncable.net.au](mailto:bslater@ncable.net.au).

**BALNARRING:** The Society moved into its new premises in the Balnarring Community Hall on the Frankston-Flinders Rd. It occupies a room purpose-built to archival standards, in which historical records and small artefacts may be stored. The room is also equipped to be used as a work room, research room and meeting area. The policy of the Society has undergone a change as well, now concentrating on the 'paper' side of collected material.

**BRIGHT:** Get in early and order one of our 2010 calendars, featuring twelve great photos of early Bright, Porepunkah and surrounds. They make a lovely Christmas gift for friends and family. To order contact the society: PO Box 265 Bright 3741, phone 5755 1009.

**BROADFORD:** The society meets on the second Wednesday of the month at 7.30 pm in the old schoolroom in the historical precinct, High Street, Broadford. New members are welcome to join and get involved in our many ongoing projects. Enquiries: PO Box 114, Broadford 3658.

**BRUNSWICK:** On 7 November our guest speaker will be David Demant from Museum Victoria talking about music and multimedia of the past. On 5 December we will launch *Hartnett House Brunswick: its founder, its work, its history*, a book by Banda Dagher. Meetings are held in the Mayor's Room, 1st floor, Brunswick Town Hall, at 1.30. Enquiries to Francesca: 9387 1194.

**CARISBROOK:** The Society was successful in obtaining a grant through the RHSV for a roll-up banner, which will be delivered in time for this year's History Week, 25 October to 1 November. The banner features an image of the Society's headquarters, the Carisbrook Town Hall and Corn Exchange.

**CASTERTON:** You are cordially invited to attend our next dinner and movie night to be held at the Merino Hotel and the Historic Merino Cinema on Wednesday 18 November at 6.30 pm for dinner or 8.00 pm for the film. Cost: \$20.00 for dinner and film or \$5.00 for film only - *Stringybark: stories of timber getting in Victoria's far South West*. RSVP essential for the dinner, by 13 November - contact Merino Hotel to book your table for dinner (5579 1202). No bookings required for film.

**CHELSEA:** The society is requesting the loan of photos for copying of Aspendale Gardens and Waterways to improve their collection in this area. They would also like some information about the gliders that were flying in the area of Edithvale/Springvale Rd, and illegal greyhound racing on the south side of Edithvale Rd, in the wetlands area. If you can help: please call Margaret (9772 1897) or Leonie (9772 2875).

**CHELTENHAM CEMETERY:** The July/August newsletter reveals that the land was reserved for the cemetery as early as August 1862. The Friends group has a website at [www.focrc.org](http://www.focrc.org) with a special Members section. Email enquires: [info@focrc.org](mailto:info@focrc.org).

**COBURG:** The Coburg Historical Museum is at 82 Bell St, Coburg, open the first Sunday of each month, except January from 2 pm to 4.30 pm. The Bluestone Cottage was built as a warder's home, and for a long time was the abode of the Smith Family. Warders had to live in close proximity to Pentridge Prison so they could hear the prison bells in the case of an escape or a riot.

**CORNISH:** Meetings of the Cornish Association are held at the Uniting Church Hall, cnr Kangaroo Rd & Skipton St, Hughesdale (Melway 69 D7). The Information Resource Centre will be open on Tuesday 10 and Saturday 21 November from 10 am to 1.30 pm. Saturday 21 from 2 pm is 'Family History Day'. The website is <http://home.vicnet.net.au/~caov/> and phone: 9877 2968.

**ESSENDON:** Discover the hidden treasures of our heritage on the Moonee Ponds Heritage Discovery Trail, Wednesday 28 October, 9.30 am to 11.30 am. Meet at the Moonee Ponds Courthouse Museum, cnr Mt Alexander Rd and Kellaway Ave, Moonee Ponds. \$5 per head. Bookings essential: 9370 4607.

**FITZROY:** The Society's Annual Dinner will be held at Dante's Restaurant on Friday 20 November, 7 pm for a 7.30 start. RSVP by 14 November to Sue Bradshaw: 9416 0616 or [randshaw@bigpond.com](mailto:randshaw@bigpond.com).

**FOOTSCRAY:** Dr John Lack will be the guest speaker at Footscray's 40<sup>th</sup> AGM on Wednesday 18 November, at 8 pm. It will be held in the Reception Room, 2<sup>nd</sup> level, City of Maribyrnong Town Hall. The topic is 'From Captain Dove to Michael Clarke -

150 years of local government in Footscray-Maribyrnong'. There will be a dinner before the meeting at 6.30 pm, \$24 per head, bookings and money must be received by Tuesday 10 November. Enquiries: [foothist@bigpond.com](mailto:foothist@bigpond.com) or 9689 3820.

**FRANKSTON:** The Society put some of their funds into bulbs for the garden at Ballam Park Homestead, and visitors enjoyed a beautiful display of daffodils, iris and bluebells in the spring. Frankston City Council installed a water tank at the side of the Caretaker's Cottage to help with the garden, and another two tanks will be installed at the back of the Resource Centre.

**HAMILTON:** The History Centre at 43 Gray St, Hamilton is open from 2 to 5 pm every day except Sunday, and on the first Wednesday of each month from 7 pm to 9 pm (research only). General meetings are held at the Centre on the second Tuesday of each month, except January, June, July and August, at 7.30 pm. Enquiries: [hamiltonhistory@anson.com.au](mailto:hamiltonhistory@anson.com.au) or 5572 4933.

**HAWTHORN:** A guided tour of the Hawthorn Town Hall will be held on Saturday 14 November at 2 pm. Meet in the foyer at 360 Burwood Rd, Hawthorn. Numbers will be limited. For enquiries phone the Secretary: 9278 4666.

**HEATHCOTE:** The Heathcote McIvor Historical Society Rooms and the historic Lock-up Museum are open to the public on Wednesdays between 9.30 am and 3 pm. The Museum is also open by appointment for group visits, and during public holidays from 10 am to 3 pm. We can be contacted at 19 Herriot St, PO Box 104, Heathcote 3523 or phone 5433 2058. All welcome.

**HORSHAM:** Meetings are now held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month at 33 Pynsent St, Horsham, commencing at 8 pm. The website is <http://www.vicnet.net.au/~hhs>. Enquiries: [lwbsmith@netconnect.com.au](mailto:lwbsmith@netconnect.com.au) or call the Secretary on 5382 2058.

**KILMORE:** Flora Culpin from the Broadmeadows Community Legal Service will be talking on the history of the formation of laws and the legal impact on the local community. This meeting will be held at the Kilmore Courthouse, Powlett St, Kilmore, Tuesday 10 November at 8 pm.

**LEARMONTH:** Meetings of the society are held every third Tuesday of the month at the Old Shire Hall, High St, Learmonth at 8 pm. Membership is \$15 for singles and \$20 for family members. The society has a new website address at [www.learmonthdhs.com.au](http://www.learmonthdhs.com.au), and a new email address: [learmonthdhs@learmonthdhs.com.au](mailto:learmonthdhs@learmonthdhs.com.au). Enquiries: 5338 4361.

**LILYDALE:** Thanks to the persistence of the society, the National Trust has classified the *Quercus suber* (Cork Oak) tree at the Lilydale Railway Station. The Society has also embarked on the project of creating DVDs of all copies of the *Lilydale Express* since its establishment in 1886. A grant and a member's donation has allowed good progress, and further donations are invited. If you can help, contact David Ross: 9735 1661.

**MALVERN:** Visit to *Umina*, Country Women's Association of Vic on Tuesday 10 November, 2 pm to 4 pm. *Umina* is the Country Women's Association of Vic bed and breakfast house, 3 Lansell Rd, Toorak. The visit will commence with a stroll around the spacious gardens, followed by a tour of the house and a talk on both the history of *Umina* and the CWA. Enjoy a delicious Devonshire afternoon tea in the gracious dining room. Cost - \$10 per person. RSVP - Lorraine 9885 9082 no later than Thursday 5 November.

**MILITARY HISTORY:** The group is discussing the possibility of a military show with their vehicles at the Ballarat Airfield to commemorate 'Victory over Japan 1945' VJ Day in May 2010. They have further been invited to participate in the Echuca Steam Rally in June 2010, which would incorporate D Day for which they might join with two other military history and re-enactment groups.

**MONTROSE:** The society reports that their catalogue can now be viewed online through the Eastern Regional Libraries Catalogue Hosting Service. Go to [www.erl.vic.gov.au](http://www.erl.vic.gov.au), then go to Local and Family History, then go to the Montrose Historical Society.

**MORDIALLOC:** The Society has been holding meetings with Kingston Council officers and an architect to discuss maintenance of the building, with a view to renovating and extending the museum. There is an urgent need to make a toilet available in the building, and if a grant is available, they intend to add a second storey to the work room area. Enquiries: 9583 5553.

**NAVAL:** The annual 'Ladies' Night' Dinner meeting will be held at the Waverley RSL, 161 Coleman Parade, Glen Waverley on Monday 23 November. The cost is \$30 per person, and bookings need to be made as soon as possible. The guest speaker will be Dr Kirsty Harris on the subject of 'The roles and skills of Australian Army nurses who served overseas in World War 1'. To be sure of a seat, book quickly with George: 9555 2074.

**OAKLEIGH:** The society has been looking at the preservation of rate books, and looking for grant opportunities for the project. In discussions with the City of Monash it was agreed to apply for a Significance Assessment Grant from Heritage Victoria, as this would give us a blueprint for applying for further grants, including the rate books.

**OUYEN:** The Centenary book, *Mallee roots to vanilla slices* by Hugh Carroll was launched on 4 September, Vanilla Slice Day. The book sells for \$40.00. To get your copy contact the society for an order form: 5092 1763.

**PORT PHILLIP PIONEERS:** The topic for the Saturday 14 July meeting is 'Beyond the Facade - Flinders Street Station' with Jenny Davies. Meetings are held at the St Andrew's Uniting Church, cnr Burke and Malvern Rds, Gardiner, starting at 2 pm. There is a \$2 entry fee. Afternoon tea is provided. Enquiries: marillajames@yahoo.com or 9500 8118.

**PRAHRAN:** At the May AGM, the Prahran Mechanics Institute was pleased to announce that Keith Dunstan OAM has accepted the role as Patron. Keith has been active

in supporting the PMI in its campaign to resolve the problems of the occupancy of their building.

**QUEENSLIFF:** The Maritime Museum is having a 'Maritime Swap Meet' on Sunday 6 December from 9 am. It will be held at the Museum in Wharf St, Queenscliff, entry \$4, children free. Pre-loved or handmade maritime/nautical items and collectables of all sorts. Donations for the Museum's stall can be collected from any location on the Bellarine Peninsula. Interest in having a site at the swap meet is also invited. For further information, call June on 5258 3440 Monday to Friday.

**SHIPLOVERS:** George Crebbin will address a muster on Wednesday 11 November, speaking on his experiences in the ships of the Bowater Steamship Company. Musters are held at the Port of Melbourne Corporations Education Centre, Lorimer St, Port Melbourne (Melway 42 F10) at 7.45 pm.

**SOMERVILLE/TYABB:** Meetings of the society are held at 1.30 pm on the third Monday of each month, February to November, at the Mechanics Hall, Station St, Somerville. Great progress has been made in preparing a permanent display for both school children and for new and older residents.

**ST KILDA CEMETERY:** The Friends' forthcoming tours through the cemetery are 'What a way to go!' - a fascinating tour of those who met with an unusual death - on Sunday 22 November 2009, 2.00 pm; and 'High society' on Sunday 6 December 2009, 2.00 pm. Meet at Dandenong Rd entrance (Melway 58 F9). Cost: \$10.00 including refreshments (members of FOSKC free). Bookings essential: 9531 6832.

**TRAFALGAR:** This edition of the *Gazette* has been produced by the staff of the community newspaper, *Traf News*. Amongst other interesting items, there is a well-illustrated article on 'Electric Trains Through Trafalgar (1956-1987)' by Noel Erbs, and another on 'Yarragon's Tramlines and Timber Mills' from the *Yarragon Centenary Booklet*, 1978.

**WALHALLA:** Meetings of the Walhalla Heritage and Development League are held monthly on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month, commencing at 10 am and concluding at midday. Enquiries can be made at the Museum for the meeting address, or [info@walhalla.org.au](mailto:info@walhalla.org.au).

**WARRNAMBOOL:** History House has moved temporarily to 125a Keplar St, Warrnambool. Opening times are Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays by 2 pm, sometimes earlier. Enquiries: [info@warrnamboolhistory.org.au](mailto:info@warrnamboolhistory.org.au) or phone the secretary on 5174 6904.

**WOADY YALOAK:** The meeting on Sunday 19 November will be a Members Show and Tell, commencing at 1.30 pm. Please bring a plate. Opening hours for research are the last Sunday of every month, 1 pm to 5 pm, and most Wednesdays 10 am to 4.30 pm. Phone to check: 5342 8754. A fee will apply.

**YARRAM:** The Yarram & District Historical Society has become homeless, being obliged to vacate its rooms above the Post Office. The collection has been packed up and is now in storage. The society has commenced a fund-raising effort with a view to building, and are selling Pioneer and Settler certificates for \$25 each. The research material is still available for use by appointment. For further information: the new postal address is PO Box 213, Yarram 3971, phone 51 826922, or see the website [www.vicnet.net.au/~ydh](http://www.vicnet.net.au/~ydh).

**YALLOURN NORTH:** Coalies Weekend will be held on November 7 to 9 with an extensive photographic and memorabilia display at the Old Brown Coal Mine Museum, corner Third St and Latrobe River Rd, Yallourn North. The Museum is also open during the week for groups by bookings. TruEnergy Yallourn sponsors open cut tours on one day during the week, providing the bus and tour guide. For enquiries contact: [annlov@vic.australis.com.au](mailto:annlov@vic.australis.com.au) or phone 5167 1589.

## History

# NEWS



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