



# History NEWS

Issue No. 288 AUGUST 2010  
Royal Historical Society of Victoria

## Facts & Fables – making local history

**Saturday 28 & Sunday 29 August**  
**The RHSV conference – Bendigo**

*Come and spend an inspiring and stimulating weekend in Bendigo taking part in our conference.*

The flexibility of the weekend allows you to book for any or all of the weekend's events; these include Saturday's informative excursion to historical sites associated with the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Burke and Wills expedition; or the conference dinner when the guest speaker will be the Sir John Monash Distinguished Professor, Graeme Davison on *Facts and Fables: making history*; or Sunday's session when excellent speakers will be discussing different ways in making local history.

The full conference program and booking form is included with this newsletter or can be downloaded from the RHSV website.

Bookings close Monday 23 August.

## BOOK SALE

**SUNDAY 12 SEPTEMBER 10am – 4pm**

***Bring out your books!!!!***

We need books for the famous RHSV Annual Book Sale!!

Clean out your bookshelves; reduce that heap of books on your bed side table!!!

If you have any books that you no longer need please 'phone us on 9326 9288 and we'll come and collect them.

Alternatively you can drop them off at the RHSV – there is 10 minute free parking outside the front door.

We welcome books on any topic.

Any offers of help gratefully received.

## Thank You

The Royal Historical Society of Victoria would like to thank the Vera Moore Foundation for once again supporting HistoryWeek.

Small historical societies and larger organizations are brought together by the RHSV under the umbrella of History Week – the cumulative effect is a fabulous array of events throughout Victoria. This would not be possible without the support of the Vera Moore Foundation.

The RHSV will be announcing its HISTORY WEEK grants program for affiliated historical societies in the September edition of *History News*

## HISTORY WEEK

24 – 31 October

### ***Calling all History Week 2010 event details***

History Week 2010 is being held from Sunday 24 October to Sunday 31 October and a range of exciting events are planned.

**But we need your event details to add to the list!**

To make sure your event is included on the HistoryWeek website, please send the following information to:

[info@historyweek.org.au](mailto:info@historyweek.org.au):

- the event title;
- a brief description of the event;
- the location of the event;
- the event time;
- a cost (if any); and
- a contact (name and telephone number) for more information.

We'll then provide you with a copy of the official History Week logo to include on all of your promotional material and send you a bunch of postcards to promote HistoryWeek to your local community.

If you don't have anything planned as yet, put your thinking caps on. Possible event topics include:

- history walking tours around town;
- Open House 'behind the scenes' tours of historical buildings;
- celebrating the life of a local identity;
- exploring the history of housing styles in your area;
- tracing your family history;
- creating a town time capsule; and/or
- welcoming a guest speaker to talk on an area of interest to residents.

Make sure you get back to Samantha Smith, History Week Coordinator and send her an email with your details

[info@historyweek.org.au](mailto:info@historyweek.org.au) by the **28 August 2010**.

**And help spread the word!**

Speak to your local school, newspaper, radio station and community groups and invite them to become involved with and promote History Week.

***Join in on the celebrations and make this year's History Week another stunning success!***

For all enquiries, please contact the Royal Historical Society of Victoria on (03) 9326 9288.

## Exhibition on the Catalan Community in Victoria

Did you know that Catalan people were the first ones to grow tomatoes in Australia? Did you know that the famous Australian meat pie was a French-Catalan invention? The connection of the Catalan community with Victoria was central to the development of Melbourne in the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> C. Indeed, one can still recognise the influence of those Catalan pioneers in Victoria.

Myriades Associacio Cultural is organising an exhibition on the Catalan community in Australia. If you have any information or contacts of people from Catalan or Spanish descent, please get in touch with Lluisa at [lluisavilalta@myriadesculturals.org](mailto:lluisavilalta@myriadesculturals.org) or 0415977530.

**Lluisa Vilalta** is Project Manager at Myriades Associacio Cultural, a non-for-profit organisation based in Barcelona.

## Welcome Jane

At the July council meeting, Council was delighted to co-opt **Jane Carolan** onto the Council. A full introduction to Jane will be published in the September edition of *History News*.

## Wonderful Whites

The Society is grateful to Whites Law Bindery who have been re-binding damaged volumes of the Sands and McDougall Directories of Victoria on our behalf.

Members will understand the very heavy use made of these volumes and the inevitable wear and tear given the number of pages and the fragility of the paper. **Ted Congdon** and **Chris McIntyre** are terrific to deal with and we are thrilled with the newly stitched and newly covered volumes. The Company acquired our former binder, Apollo Moon, some years ago and all business is now conducted at White's office in Glenhuntly Road, South Caulfield.

We strongly recommend the firm to members interested in binding and printing jobs, no matter how small.

## The RHSV Foundation continues to build

We are delighted to announce the support of our most recent Foundation Founder:

**Dr. Hugh Anderson**

We wish to correct a mistake – in the June edition of *History News* we forgot to include **Olwen Ford**, along with **Frank Ford**, as a recent Foundation Founder. We apologise for forgetting her name and thank her very much for her generous support.

# Community history ignored in election campaign

**The national peak body, The Federation of Australian Historical Societies representing over 100,000 historical society members in Australia is disappointed that none of the major political parties has so far paid attention to the community history movement's important role during the current federal election campaign.**

**Don Garden**, President of the Federation of Australian Historical Societies, argues that community history deserves far more support. He urges party leaders to clearly acknowledge this in their policy statements.

'Community history volunteers do invaluable work that would be far more expensive if undertaken by government agencies', Associate Professor Garden said. 'Particularly in rural and suburban areas', he continued, 'they make significant contributions to local economies. Assuming that the estimated 100,000 members each contributes an average of one hour of their time per month, valued conservatively at \$20 per hour, this gives a total of about \$24 million per annum.'

Many of those contributions are now under threat unless greater government assistance is provided. Examples include –

Support and training to preserve, protect, display and digitise the large number of valuable collections held by community history organisations.

Greater support to enable community history organisations to contribute as effectively as possible to tourism, especially

through the development of local history museums and tourist information on other historic places.

Support for community history organisations to provide essential resources for the new National Curriculum in History.

Support that allows community history organisations to protect heritage places and collections from climate change's predicted impacts.

Associate Professor Garden warns that failure to offer such assistance would have dire consequences. 'Many historical societies', he added, 'are already under considerable financial pressure, finding it increasingly difficult to undertake tasks that the wider community expects and values.' He calls on parties contesting the federal election to properly address societies' concerns.

Contact

Federation of Australian Historical Societies

[www.history.org.au](http://www.history.org.au)

## Open house at the Drill Hall

Over the weekend of 24 and 25 July the RHSV participated for the first time in Melbourne Open House as one of fifty-nine buildings in the city which opened their doors to the public. Nearly 550 visitors, many of whom had never been to the Drill Hall before, streamed through the building. We had a lot to offer with **Jenny Davies' *Beyond the Facade*** exhibition about Flinders Street, as well as our splendid Art Deco building and mysterious historical activities.

Owing to the window project still being underway (to assist in dust-proofing our Collection), a huge amount of re-organising and cleaning had to be done to present a fresh face to the public. So our grateful thanks to **Lenore Frost** who managed and contributed so much to our involvement in Melbourne Open House, and to Society volunteers who helped both with the cleaning and shifting, and with their presence during the Open House: **Liz Coady, Marg Connor, Jenny Davies, Joan Hunt, Lorraine James, Andrew Lemon, Chris Manchee, Norma Mullins, Jane Nigro, Diana Phoenix, Susan Priestley, John Rose, Simon Smith, David Thompson, Brian Ward**. Furthermore, our many thanks to staff member **Gerardine Horgan** who was stalwart in her help and advice in the last minute rush.

**TUESDAY 31 AUGUST****Flinders Street Station Exhibition' celebration**

Please join us for an 'end of the Flinders Street Station Exhibition' celebration on Tuesday 31 August. Jason Robert's water colour of Flinders Street Station will be up for auction as well as several of the other framed copies of the architectural drawings.

**Where:** Royal Historical Society of Victoria

**When:** Tuesday 31 August.  
5.30pm to 7pm.

**Cost:** Free

To assist with catering please RSVP by Thursday 26 August

**23 SEPTEMBER****The Great Melbourne Telescope: Restoring our astronomical heritage**

JOINT ANNUAL LECTURE:

**The Royal Society of Victoria and the RHSV**

**Speaker:** Dr Richard Gillespie

**Where:** Royal Society Hall, entrance now at 8 LaTrobe Street, Melbourne

**Time:** Pre-lecture refreshments 6.15pm (Cost \$20 on the night)

Lecture: 7pm

**RSVP:** for catering essential 12 noon 21 Sept, telephone 9663 5259

or email [rsv@sciencevictoria.org.au](mailto:rsv@sciencevictoria.org.au)

**TUESDAY 14 SEPTEMBER****The Many Lives of Kenneth Myer**

**Speaker:** Sue Ebury

**Venue:** RHSV

**Time:** 5.15 tea/coffee. Lecture 5.45

**Cost:** Members Free

Non Members \$5.50

When Kenneth Baillieu Myer's father fell dead on the footpath in 1934, Ken's life changed in an instant. As the eldest son of the Jewish immigrant retailing genius, Sidney Baeviski Myer, who went from pedlar to philanthropist millionaire in fifteen years, 13-year-old Ken was immediately acknowledged as head of the family.

Despite a conventional education at Geelong Grammar and a year at Princeton University, Ken was an unconventional man. He had hit headlines when he was born and continued to make news throughout his life-as the powerful Executive Chairman of Myer; in his refusal to be Governor-General of Australia; with his separation and divorce from his wife Prue and remarriage to a Japanese woman half his age, Yasuko Hiraoka; as Chairman of the Victorian Arts Centre and the National Library of Australia; and during his disastrous years as Chairman of the ABC-a reward for signing the 'Myer It's time' letter, acknowledged by Whitlam as influential in bringing the Labor Party to power in 1972.

Ken Myer introduced Australia to the first regional shopping centres, with Chadstone changing the face of the Australian landscape. Parking meters, state of the art information systems at the National Library of Australia, ground-breaking medical research at The Howard Florey Institute and genetic engineering at CSIRO were all facilitated by him.

Visionary and romantic, he was depressive and driven, charming one moment, icy the next. Unpretentious and a passionate conservationist, he was generous both publicly and anonymously, giving away his fortune and in doing so founding modern philanthropy in Australia. Happiest when finally free of the Store, he died with his wife Yasuko in a light plane crash in Alaska in 1992.

With unprecedented access to family documents, Sue Ebury paints a vivid portrait of the many aspects of Ken Myer's life, and the man himself.

*Sue Ebury was born and educated in New Zealand. After nineteen years as an editor and publishing director at an international publishing house, she moved to Hong Kong, where she edited The War Diaries of Weary Dunlop and wrote the bestselling biography Weary: The Life of Sir Edward Dunlop.*

**From the President**

Having had the opportunity, for the first time in my career, for a two month research visit to England, I came back at the end of June with horizons broadened. Was the mind deepened? Who can say. My absence overlapped to some extent with that of our Executive Officer, Kate Prinsley, who was off on her Churchill Fellowship tour of community heritage facilities in America and the UK. Kate returned last week, at the end of July. Each of us can only say sincere thanks to all those who kept the wheels turning.

In particular I am thinking of our Office Manager, Gerardine Horgan and to Christine Cooze and Vicki Court for doing so much more than merely holding the fort.

Indeed I am so impressed by all that happened during my absence that it is tempting to disappear again! When I returned the windows double-glazing project was all but complete, a real benefit to the Society and its collections that came directly from the Federal government Jobs Fund project and indirectly from advocacy by the Federation of Australian Historical Societies on which the RHSV is represented. Renovations try the patience of the most saintly, but the end result is already appreciated with much reduced noise levels, better temperature control and much less dust. It is pleasing to know that many regional historical societies have also had the benefit of this funding for their premises.

Not only the windows were in place. So was the planning for our end of August conference in Bendigo – please make a point of joining us in this wonderful historic city where we will consider facts and fable in the presentation of local history, and get some new insights into the Burke and Wills expedition which headed off to the outback 150 years ago this month. Also in place was the temporary exhibition at A'Beckett Street to mark the centenary of Flinders Street station curated by Jenny Davies. Her energy and enthusiasm gave the RHSV our most successful and visited exhibition in years. By popular demand it has been extended till the end of August: make a point of coming to see it, or see it again, before it closes.

Also in place were arrangements for the RHSV's first involvement in the Melbourne Open House weekend at the end of July, where our former Drill Hall was one of dozens of distinctive buildings open to the public. Our co vice-president Lenore Frost organised a team of volunteers to welcome the curious, and the Society's headquarters have never been so attractively presented. We were rewarded by nearly 600 visitors over the

*continued page 6*

## 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 the *News* and through possible deposit in the library. Some items may later be reviewed in the *Journal*.

Bill Billett, *Mont St Quentin, A Soldier's Battle*, Rosenberg, Sydney, 2009, pp. 184, \$32.95 The publishing of military histories continues to be a thriving enterprise. Ninety years ago, the battle of Mont St Quentin and Peronne resulted in an Australian victory and a further breaking of the stalemate on the Western Front. Carried out by brigades of the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Divisions under the ultimate command of Monash, this battle is not as well-known as Villers-Bretonneux and Hamel but Billett thinks it should be and his meticulous account shows its importance and relative oversight.

Hugh Carroll, *Mallee Roots to Vanilla Slices, Ouyen – One Hundred Years*, Mallee Printers, Sea Lake, 2009, pp. 235, \$40 + \$10 post Available from Ouyen District History & Genealogy Centre, PO Box 131, Ouyen, 3490. Ouyen is well-served by this historical narrative that clearly places local history gleaned from rich newspaper, oral and visual sources into wider contexts of an outside world. Ouyen has its distinctive features but its history is always bound up with the outside world, not least because of the importance of wheat. This must be an instructive read for those with Ouyen connections. Additionally, it is an important contribution to broader understandings about the Mallee's history, largely neglected by regional studies.

Michael Cathcart, *The Water Dreamers, The Remarkable History Of Our Dry Continent*, Text Publishing, Melbourne, 2009, pp. 327, \$34.95 This may well be one of those books that is widely read and that has a continuing impact on the ways we see ourselves and our land. Cathcart focuses on the ways in which white settlers struggled with the lack of rainfall in so much of Australia. Not only did their contact with Aboriginal peoples trigger a 'battle for land' but 'also a battle for water' (p.6). In the process, explorers, settlers, novelists, poets, politicians and engineers have 'dreamt' about solutions to the continent's dryness. This is both an environmental and a cultural history of Australia that examines many of these 'dreams'. In 21<sup>st</sup> century Australia it is both a book for its time and for a long time after that.

David Clune and Ken Turner (eds), *The Governors of New South Wales, 1788-2010*, Federation Press, Sydney, 2009, pp. xxii + 666, \$59.95 Published as part of the commemoration of responsible government in New South Wales, this book contains short biographies

on each of the governors from Phillip to Marie Bashir. Written by different authors, each essay focuses on the time each governor spent in New South Wales. Reading them together gives some insight into the changing roles of governors. They also remind us of the continuing power that governors can wield.

Rachel Cook, *Closets Are For Clothes, A History of Queer Australia*, Black Dog, Melbourne, 2010, pp. 147, \$18.99 Written specifically for teenagers, the book comprises excerpts of gay and lesbian history, a history of repression and change. Part of The Drum Series, it features fictionalised first-person accounts, often drawn from people 'who actually existed' and played a part in queer history. These are clearly identified as such. Contributes to our understandings of the diversity of Australian society.

John Currey (ed.), *Matthew Flinders, The Investigator in Port Phillip*, The Banks Society, 21 Cressy St, Malvern, 3144, 2009, pp. 99 Another elegantly produced booklet taken from Flinders' *A Voyage to Terra Australis*, published in 1814, and dealing with Flinders' time in Port Phillip in April 1802 when he climbed Arthurs Seat, landed at Mornington, then Indented Head, crossed Corio Bay, climbed the You-Yangs and inspected the area on the western side of the entrance.

Penelope Hetherington, *Paupers, Poor Relief and Poor Houses in Western Australia, 1829 to 1910*, University of Western Australia Press, Perth, 2009, pp. xiv + 202 A substantial contribution to Australia's welfare history set against the often distinctive history of Western Australia.

Bronwen Hinz, *Many Hopes, One Dream, The Story of the Ethnic Communities Council of Victoria*, Australian Scholarly Publishing, Melbourne, 2009, pp. xviii + 215 An important scholarly account of nearly 40 years of advocacy and support for ethnic groups in Victoria set within changing local and world environments and sometimes beset with political debate.

Noel Jackling, *Dancing to Damnation?, Harold Wood and John Woodhouse in the fight to lift the ban on dancing on Methodist Church property*, Uniting Church Historical Society, PO Box 698, Elsternwick, 3185, 2009, pp. ix + 179, \$20 As the long title suggests, the author examines the changes in attitudes to dancing in the Methodist Church and its adherents, and the parts played by two leading figures – Harold Wood, Principal of Methodist Ladies' College, and John Woodhouse, influential layman – in the eventual lifting of the ban on dancing on Methodist property in 1954. He relates the debate to social changes in 20<sup>th</sup> century Melbourne in an enlightening text.

Anne McClelland, *My Blood's Country: the Spirit of Birchip*, Birchip Business and Learning Centre, 77 Cumming Avenue, Birchip, 3483, 2009, pp. 160

In its own words, 'a compilation of interviews, photographs and articles' that aims to 'encapsulate the spirit of Birchip and its people' in a 'coffee table book'. The common theme from the diverse interviews is that their town is their home. This message is conveyed in the stunning recent photographs taken by Glenys Rickard as well as the rich images from the past. The result is much more than a 'coffee table book'. While it does not substitute for the sustained analytical narrative, it may well be attractive as a model for publication about other local areas.

Linda Meadows and Dorothy Meadows (eds), *Women of Chelsea and District*, Chelsea and District Historical Society Inc., PO Box 377, Chelsea, 3196 Produced by a committee of women, the book presents interesting stories from the lives of 29 women over more than a century. Its immediate usefulness is limited by the fact that there is no index and no editorial overview of the content. Assisted by the City of Kingston, there is also no ISBN.

Melton & District Historical Society, PO Box 58, Melton, 3337 have produced the six attractive booklets on identities, places, and reminiscences; \$12 for the set. The society has also produced a CD-ROM entitled *Melton Yesterday & Today*, \$15 + \$3.50 post.

*The Corner Shops of Ballarat, A History and Directory*, National Trust of Australia (Victoria) Ballarat Branch, c/- 301 Clissold St, Ballarat, 3350, 2009, pp. xvi + 86 Funded by the Holsworth Trust, this is an attractive book that charts the sites and proprietors of corner shops. Well-researched and illustrated but regrettably, without an ISBN number and containing a 'forward'!

M.J. Nolan, *The Enterprising Life of Dr Henry Backhaus, Bendigo Pioneer*, M.J. Nolan, Bendigo, 2008, pp. 136, \$25. Available from Central Catholic Bookshop, Melbourne. As the author notes, Backhaus 'was one of the most unusual' Catholic priests in 19<sup>th</sup> century Australia, with not only considerable interest in civic affairs but also in investment. His notable success in the latter enabled the building of Bendigo's massive cathedral. Nolan presents a documented study of this man of many parts and helps to dispel the many myths about the man and his very valuable estate. An interesting book of significance not only in Bendigo.

Kevin O'Reilly, *In Just Five Years, The RAAF & Nhill in World War II, 1941-1946*, K. O'Reilly, 12 Kimber Court, Dingley Village, 3172, 2009, pp. 208 In the author's words, 'a collection of articles, documents, reminiscences and photographs' that describe the substantial and important presence of both a navigation and later, an air armament and gas school for the RAAF during World War II. The collected evidence is wide-ranging and includes much detail of interaction between the training base and the town where the author was growing up.

# An inspiring and rewarding tour

**RHSV Executive Officer Kate Prinsley reports on her recent six week Churchill fellowship in the UK and US.**

Three days back in my freezing cold office at the RHSV and my mind is wondering off to the 'knee high by 4<sup>th</sup> July' corn fields of Indiana, the fast talking 'corrfee' drinking New Yorkers, and the erudite English who as rain softly fell on St. Swithen's day hoped that this wasn't the traditional omen for the end of the heat wave – with 40 days of rain to follow.

My six week Churchill Fellowship – four weeks in the US and two weeks in the UK – was to investigate the sustainability of local history in the community: in terms of generating interest and, more particularly, in addressing succession planning for volunteers.

In this short article I can only lightly sketch the organizations and people I met. The recommendations I would make – the distillation of my thoughts – will be the basis of my paper to be presented at our conference in Bendigo on August 28<sup>th</sup> - 29<sup>th</sup>.

My research tour began in Nashville with a visit to the American Association of State and Local History (AASLH). What a strange place to find the head quarters of American local history – amongst the Civil War and Elvis!!! "Sure, I know the answer to your problem" said Bob Beatty, Director of Programs, "we have the same issues here and the solution is .....". He proceeded to give me documents, contacts of people and workbooks that the AASLH have developed – a great and very grateful way to start my project.

Two days later and I'm off to Illinois to meet Mary Anne Schierman of the American Association of Museum Volunteers. What an inspiring day it was to see practical and applicable examples of volunteer recruitment, management and programmes at the Macleigh County Historical Society in Bloomington and the exemplary management of volunteers at the Lincoln Library in Springfield. I finished off my Illinois sojourn with an excellent visit to the Chicago Metro History Centre.

Next the suitcase is packed again and I'm off to Indiana. My visit was hosted by the 'rock stars' of local history – the Indiana Historical Society. I had approached them with two requests;

to find out more about the County Historian Program which is so effective in Indiana and to look at volunteer-managed / volunteered historical societies. Feeling like a member of the TV show *The Partridge Family*, Jeff Harris, Director of Local History Services, drove me around Indiana in the local history services white van visiting societies. Here I learnt the expression 'community buy in' means more than putting on relevant exhibitions – 'community buy in' is raising funds and I was 'gob smacked' at the extraordinary sums raised from the tiniest of towns.

A sad good bye to Indiana and it's off to Washington. There I had meetings with federal bodies; the Institute of Museum and Library Services, the American Association of Museums and most worthwhile librarians in the local history room at the Library of Congress. Along the way I have become increasingly fascinated with the complex funding of local history and the role in local history of organisations such as the Daughters of the American Revolution (a quick visit to their head quarters).

Then to Troy to visit the Museums Association of New York and onto New York City where I changed the tack of my research to look at dynamic local history programmes – a mix of grass roots and the more established. Meetings were held with the Museum of the City of New York, the Manhattan Borough Historian, the Lower East Side History Project, City Lore and the American Social History Project.

A quick hop across the pond and I'm in England. I moved to Australia in 1995 and since then there have been enormous changes in arts funding in Britain: particularly National Lottery funding with its support of heritage and the Renaissance program funded through (MLA) Museums Libraries and Archives. I had time to explore two local history services that had benefited from these schemes and to further my



*Kate Prinsley stands between a grandfather and grandson - volunteers at the Wabash and Erie Canal Historical Society in Delphi Indiana*



*Reading Room*

*The McLean County Museum of History, Bloomington, Illinois.*

research into volunteer led community groups. It all seemed perfect in England until my last week when David Cameron, the new Prime Minister, asked government bodies to plan for up to a 40% cut in funding and his ideas for the Big Society with the expectation being placed on volunteers to deliver 'core services' – how this will impact on local history is of course yet to unfold.

I look forward to reporting more fully and in detail about my Churchill Fellowship and encourage RHSV members to come to the Bendigo Conference – 28<sup>th</sup> -29<sup>th</sup> August.

## GRANT APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN

## Victoria's Heritage Grants

Applications are now open for Victoria's Heritage Grants for Places and Objects and Heritage Studies and Advisory Services.

Victoria's Heritage Grants assists owners and managers of heritage places and objects and local government heritage management in Victoria.

**Objects and Places grants funding** is available for the repair, documentation and interpretation of heritage places and objects. For guidelines and application forms for Places and Objects grant funding, visit:

<http://www.dpcd.vic.gov.au/web18/dvcgrants.nsf/AllDocs/E9DAF62C8BEFBCA257759000F9308>

**Heritage Studies and Advisory Services grant funding** is available for local government Heritage Studies and Heritage Advisory Services. For guidelines and application forms for Heritage Studies and Advisory Services, visit:

<http://www.dpcd.vic.gov.au/web18/dvcgrants.nsf/AllDocs/6F40CD8F9789BC39CA25775900126CD5>

For 2009/10 local government heritage advisory grant recipients, please also note that annual report spreadsheets to complete will be emailed to all recipients shortly.

The Grants Information Line is 1300 366 356. Applicants are also encouraged to contact Heritage Victoria (ph: (03) 8644 8800) directly to discuss grant proposals.

### ENQUIRIES:

**Victoria's Heritage Grants for Places and Objects** funding program, contact:

Tony Armstrong on (03) 8644 8893, [tony.armstrong@dpcd.vic.gov.au](mailto:tony.armstrong@dpcd.vic.gov.au) or Megan McDougall on (03) 8644 8902, [megan.mcdougall@dpcd.vic.gov.au](mailto:megan.mcdougall@dpcd.vic.gov.au).

**Victoria's Heritage Grants for Heritage Studies and Advisory Services** funding program, contact:

Lisa Rogers on (03) 8644 8937, [lisa.rogers@dpcd.vic.gov.au](mailto:lisa.rogers@dpcd.vic.gov.au) or Geoff Austin on (03) 8644 8894, [geoff.austin@dpcd.vic.gov.au](mailto:geoff.austin@dpcd.vic.gov.au) or Ian Wight on (03) 8644 8954, [ian.wight@dpcd.vic.gov.au](mailto:ian.wight@dpcd.vic.gov.au).

**Applications close Tuesday 24 August 2010.**

## Commemorating Eminent Australians

The second funding round of Commemorating Eminent Australians is now open. The Commonwealth Department of Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts are calling for applications until Friday 13 August 2010. The Commemorating Eminent Australians grants program is designed to provide funding for the recognition of eminent Australians who have made a significant impact on Australia and the world.

Eligible projects may include:

- The conservation of graves of people of significance to Australia.
- The conservation of monuments, objects, plaques and statues that commemorate eminent Australians.

Please see attached guidelines and application form (also available in Word docs from their website).

<http://www.environment.gov.au/heritage/programs/cea/index.html>

For more information:

Heritage Projects Section

Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts GPO Box 787  
CANBERRA ACT 2601

Tel: 1800 653 004 (free call)

Fax: (02) 6274 2095

Email: [heritagegrants@environment.gov.au](mailto:heritagegrants@environment.gov.au)

## Victorian Community Foundation – Holsworth Local Heritage Trust

Historical Societies in Regional Victoria are encouraged to apply to the Holsworth Fund to support the production of publications.

Funding of up to \$2,000 is available for the publication of works on any specific or general local history in Regional Victoria.

The grant is not intended to benefit individual authors or large organizations. Small organizations with little or no experience of self-publishing work will be encouraged. Joint projects encompassing several groups or annual/self-edited journals incorporating submitted historical articles from a wide community are encouraged.

### Previous recipients include:

Maryborough Field Naturalists Club, Linton & District Historical Society, Tatura & District Historical Society, Mornington & Peninsular National Trust, friends of Bendigo Cemeteries Inc.

For more information, application guidelines and forms go to ANZ Executors and Trustees on 03 9273 6799 or free call 1800 808 910

## *From the President continued*

weekend, and of course we encouraged them to think about joining the RHSV as members. I am really grateful to all our volunteers who got the place ready and who helped out on the two days.

Behind the scenes, hours of planning were going into other projects: our hopes for renewing and revitalising our long term tenancy of A'Beckett Street; our bid for increased annual funding from Arts Victoria for the next three years; our joint project with the State Library of Victoria to put the *Victorian Historical Journal* on line. Our other co-vice president Dr Simon Smith, Richard Barnden and all the members of the relevant sub-committees deserve our thanks.

So – welcome back Kate, and a welcome to our two new Council members Jane Carolan and Jenny Coates, and on with the show. Check out our What's On, and I encourage members to attend next Tuesday evening's lecture by Michelle Summerton who will tell us about the riches of the RHSV's wonderful images collection.

*Andrew Lemon*



*Kate Prinsley launches the On-line Guide.*

## New resource for affiliated societies

Members of the History Victoria Support Group, a committee of the RHSV, have been engaged in a project to update an earlier RHSV publication: Guide to Managing Historical Societies. While a mere update was originally envisaged, in fact it was realised quite early in the process that a major re-write was required, as the early edition pre-dated extensive use of personal computers. The Local History Grants Program assisted with a grant to enable us to provide a copy of the Guide to all our affiliated societies in CD format.

Recognising that a CD full of links to useful information will also become outdated over time, an online updateable version was also planned. The online version was launched at the History Victoria Support Group seminar in Rutherglen on 29 May by our Executive Officer, Kate Prinsley. The CD version will be posted to affiliated societies a little later in the year. This will contain useful information for running your historical society, including pro forma templates, advice on roles of office bearers, collection policies, and so on.

You can access the online Guide here: <http://www.historyvictoria.org.au/socguide.htm>. Material is still being progressively loaded onto the website.

We are grateful for the assistance of the Local History Grants Program to enable us to produce the Guide to Managing Historical Societies.

## 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 August to [lenore10@hotmail.com](mailto:lenore10@hotmail.com).

**BAPTIST:** Ken Edmonds will give an illustrated talk, "Rembrandt and the Waterlander Mennonites", about possible connections between Rembrandt and the early Mennonites who influenced Baptist origins. Meetings are held at the Auburn Baptist Church, 597 Burwood Rd, Hawthorn at 7.30 pm. Enquiries: 9729 1752.

**CAMBERWELL:** Mr Vivian Kenney will address the Society on the subject of "Clocks" on Thursday 23 September in the Meeting Room of the Hawthorn Town Hall (side entrance via car park) 360 Burwood Road, Hawthorn, no time given. Enquiries: 9836 3558.

**CARISBROOK:** The society has opened a new Research Centre, formerly the Infant Welfare Centre next to the Town Hall. There are two Research Rooms – one for the public and one for members. Equipment includes computers, printers, scanners, film readers, and a Scanpro 2000 to digitise film.

**CASTLEMAINE:** Professor Janet McCalman will speak about the "Tasmanian Convicts Project" at the meeting of Monday 6 September. Meetings are held at the Former Courthouse, 7 Goldsmith Cres, Castlemaine at 7.30 pm. Enquiries 5470 6072 or email [chsi@castlemainehistoricalsociety.com](mailto:chsi@castlemainehistoricalsociety.com).

**CHELTENHAM CEMETERY:** The next tours at the Cheltenham Memorial Park, Wangara Rd, will be "Mostly Murders". They will be held on Sunday 12 September at 2 pm and Sunday 31 October at 11 am. Tours are \$10 for non-members, and \$5 for members. Bookings essential – either online at [www.focrc.org/tours.htm](http://www.focrc.org/tours.htm) or ring Vivienne on 5420 7671.

**CINEMA & THEATRE:** Northern suburbs cinemas/former cinemas inspection, including the former Rivoli, West Preston and Regent theatres will take place on Saturday 21 August. For further details see the website [www.caths.org.au](http://www.caths.org.au).

**COLAC:** On Saturday 28 August a General Meeting with a speaker will be held at the COPACC History Centre, at 1.30 pm. Enquiries: [colachistoricalsociety@googlemail.com](mailto:colachistoricalsociety@googlemail.com) or phone 5232 1624.

**DAYLESFORD:** Glenlyon and Daylesford will celebrate 150 years since the formation of the Glenlyon Roads Board, the foundation entity of the current Hepburn Shire. The Glenlyon Progress Association will hold a weekend of festivities on 22-24 October. Enquiries: contact Dave Johnson on 5348 7761 or email [kibo@tpg.com.au](mailto:kibo@tpg.com.au).

**DUNOLLY:** Goldfields Historical Society celebrated its 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with the sealing of a time capsule. It was placed into a specially constructed steel box and fitted into the disused fireplace at the Dunolly Museum. There is no-one left from the first meeting held in 1960.

**ECHUCA:** Celebrating their 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, on 9 June at the Cargo Shed of the Port of Echuca Wharf, the society dedicated a plaque to those persons responsible for the movement to save the Wharf, bring back the boats to Echuca, and to honour the first President and Vice President of the society.

**ELTHAM:** A heritage walk will be held on Saturday 4 September, from 2 pm. For details contact the society on [edhs1@bigpond.com](mailto:edhs1@bigpond.com) or check the webpage [www.tinyurl.com/elthamdhs](http://www.tinyurl.com/elthamdhs).

**FITZROY:** "My native place: Alfred Deakin in Fitzroy" will be presented by Carole Woods on Thursday 26 August at the Reading Room of Fitzroy Library, Napier Street, Fitzroy at 7.30 pm. Carole will discuss Deakin's reflections on childhood, memory and literature, and his connections with Fitzroy. Enquiries: [fitzroyhistorysociety@yahoo.com](mailto:fitzroyhistorysociety@yahoo.com).

**FOOTSCRAY:** The next meeting will be held at Ercildoune, corner of Napier and Hyde Streets, Footscray, on Sunday 15 August at 2 pm. To celebrate 150 years at Footscray Primary School, Stephen Palmer will relate memories of his time at the school. Enquiries: [foothist@bigpond.com](mailto:foothist@bigpond.com).

**INVERLOCH:** The restoration of the Rocket Shed has proceeded, with construction work completed except for finials, downpipes and barge rolls. These will be completed after the shed has been relocated, which is expected to be early August. Relevant permits have yet to be obtained, and the weather is expected to have an effect.

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**KANGAROO GROUND:** The Andrew Ross Museum's most recent publication, *The Christmas Hills story* by Mick Woiwod, was launched at the museum on 1 August. This is a 275 page illustrated volume. Enquiries: [wcleeson@primus.com.au](mailto:wcleeson@primus.com.au).

**KEILOR:** The Society has received a grant from the "Restoring Community War Memorials Grants Program 2009-2010" for the Keilor Cenotaph Enhancement Project, which aims to display the names recorded on the Honour Rolls in the Old Shire Hall in a public place, in the surrounds of the Cenotaph.

**KOO-WEE-RUP SWAMP:** The society was successful in a grant application to Cardinia Shire Council, which covers half the cost of new security doors and shutters for their headquarters at Mallow House.

**KYNETON:** The society will hold a Burke and Wills trip on Sunday 22 August. Meeting at 78 Piper St, Kyneton, at 10.30 sharp, members will travel to Lancefield to catch up with others at Macedonia House at 11 am. BYO lunch, drinks, sturdy shoes for walking, gold coin donation appreciated. Enquiries: [kynetonhs@hotmail.com](mailto:kynetonhs@hotmail.com).

**LEONGATHA:** The Society will display antique items from their collection at the Daffodil Festival on 27, 27 and 28 August. Join their own "Antiques Road Show" - bring along items to be valued by Simon Ford of Inverloch. The cost is a gold coin donation, and will commence at 1.15 pm.

**MALMSBURY:** Sue Walter has written a new book called *Gold 'n greens: a history of the Chinese of Malmsbury and District*, about initial gold seeking and later market gardening of the Chinese community. This is available for \$38 plus \$9.50 postage from The Secretary, PO Box 113, Malmsbury 3446.

**MARYSVILLE:** The Society is pleased to report that they have been able to purchase a house which survived the bushfire to be their new headquarters. They took possession in mid-June. The new address will be 39 Darwin Street, Marysville. They do not expect to be able to open until sometime next year. We wish them luck in their new home.

**MILITARY - VIC:** On Thursday 26 August Will Davies, author of *Beneath Hill 60*, will speak about his research. Meetings are held at the Oakleigh RSL, Drummond St, Oakleigh, starting at 8.15 pm. Visitors welcome. Enquiries: 9749 5829 or email [stephencgray@hotmail.com](mailto:stephencgray@hotmail.com).

**MORWELL:** On 6 June, in a combined project of the Historical Society, the Morwell Rotary Club and the Latrobe Council, a Bills Horse Trough was moved to its original location on the median strip of Hazelwood Rd and Commercial Road intersection. It has been restored now serves as a pioneer memorial.

**NEWSTEAD:** The annual get-together of members and friends will be held on Saturday 21 August at 6.30 pm at the Courthouse. Bring a plate of food to share and a drink if you wish. Tea and coffee will be available and the open fire will be burning. Enquiries: 5476 2006.

**OUYEN:** On Friday 3 September, the day of the Great Australian Vanilla Slice Triumph, the society invites you to join them for a meal

at the Ouyen Community Club in the evening. Numbers are required for booking. For further details, email [history@ouyen.vic.au](mailto:history@ouyen.vic.au) or phone 5092 1763.

**PRAHRAN MECHANICS:** The closing date for the PMI Short History Prize is Friday 27 August at 4 pm. Entries up to 15,000 words in length, non-fiction and previously unpublished are eligible for a \$1,000 prize. For entry forms ring 9510 3393 or visit [www.pmi.net.au/events.htm#prize](http://www.pmi.net.au/events.htm#prize).

**PYRAMID HILL:** "Trekking with Burke and Wills 150 years ago". A program of events has been prepared to celebrate the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Burke & Wills, including walks and bus tours from 29 August to 1 September. Email [pyhhist@bigpond.com](mailto:pyhhist@bigpond.com) for details, or see their website <http://www.pyramidhill.net.au/index4.html>.

**QUEENSCLIFFE:** A bus trip to Ballarat will be held on Thursday 26 August, leaving Queenscliff at 9 am and returning by 5 pm. Stops will include the Eureka Centre and the Art Gallery of Ballarat. The bus and tours will cost \$40 per person, refreshments at own expense. Enquiries: 5258 2511 or email [qhminf77@bigpond.net.au](mailto:qhminf77@bigpond.net.au).

**RICHMOND & BURNLEY:** The "Yarraberg History Walk" will be held on Sunday 19 September. There will be a morning and an afternoon walk. For further details check the website <http://home.vicnet.net.au/~rbhs/> or call 9428 6231.

**RINGWOOD:** On Tuesday 24 August Associate Professor John Murphy, from the School of Historical Studies, the Australian Centre at Melbourne University will talk about the history of poverty in Australia with emphasis on welfare and social implications. Meet at the Federation Estate (old Ringwood State School) in Greenwood Avenue, Ringwood, Room 4, at 8pm.

**ROMSEY & LANCEFIELD:** The Autumn 2010 edition of the *Romsey & Lancefield Record* carries a tribute to their member, the late Helen Broad. Helen was also a member of the Mornington Historical Society, and a loved and respected member of the Royal Historical Society of Victoria.

**SHEPPARTON:** The Society has a wonderful new website: see [www.heritagesshepparton.com.au](http://www.heritagesshepparton.com.au). On this website you can read about the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Shepparton and the book the society is about to publish in celebration.

**ST KILDA CEMETERY:** The Friends' forthcoming tour through the cemetery is "Booksellers, Authors & Literati", Sunday 22 August, 2.00 pm. Tour leader: Elizabeth Hore. Meet at Dandenong Road entrance, Melways Ref 58 F9. Cost: \$10.00 including refreshments (members of FOSKC free). Bookings essential, contact 9531 6832 or 0422 379 053.

**TALBOT:** In February this year the Society launched a new book - the *Diary of Bandsman H E Krutli, D Company, 14<sup>th</sup> Battalion, 4<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade, Australian Imperial Forces (AIF), September 1914 to April 1916*. The book costs \$20, and can be obtained by emailing [talbotmuseum@hotmail.com](mailto:talbotmuseum@hotmail.com) or phone 5461 3340.

**TERANG:** The society reports that a number of hard-working members removed the tin from their museum roof to remove droppings, dead and live pigeons, eggs, nests, etc from the roof space, the iron replaced with Tex screws, and wire netting put in place to stop the return of the pigeons. Well done, everyone.

**WARRAGUL:** The society meets in the Old Shire Hall, Queen St, Warragul on the last Monday of the month at 7.30pm. Notes from the June guest speaker, Kevin Richardson, on the subject of Brandy Creek are included in the July newsletter. It was the Post Office which changed the name of Brandy Creek to Buln Buln.

**WARRNAMBOOL:** The renovations to History House have been completed and the collection returned. It is now open each weekday afternoon except Friday, from 1.30 to 4 pm. See the website [www.warrnamboolhistory.org.au](http://www.warrnamboolhistory.org.au).

**WAVERLEY:** A short Annual General Meeting will be held on Sunday 22 August, followed by "A Time to Remember - 1937" - an afternoon at the flicks. Meet at St Philip's Church, Stephenson's Rd, Mt Waverley at 2 pm. Please bring a plate to share. Enquiries: 9802 9332.

## History

# NEWS



ROYAL HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF VICTORIA INC.  
239 A'BECKETT STREET MELBOURNE 3000

Phone: 9326 9288  
Fax: 9326 9477

website: <http://www.historyvictoria.org.au>  
email: [office@historyvictoria.org.au](mailto:office@historyvictoria.org.au)  
ABN 36 520 675 471  
Registration No. A2529

Office Hours: Monday to Friday  
9am to 5pm  
Library Hours: Monday to Friday  
10am to 4pm

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President	Andrew Lemon
Executive Officer	Kate Prinsley
Administrative Officer	Gerardine Horgan
Local History Officer	Vicki Court
Volunteer Co-ordinator	Christine Cooze

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