

HISTORY NEWS

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Fryerstown Hall

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

President's Report

Vera Deakin's World of Humanity

The Burke & Wills Institute

Bright Star for London

A Willing Volunteer

Some Good News on Heritage!

AGM Night

Councillor Profile

Murders in Melbourne

Around the Societies

Books Received

History Victoria Bookshop

President's Report

What a commission can do!



Our Talented Administration Officer

Amy Clay comes to the RHSV with a wealth of experience. After completing her VCE at Assumption College, Kilmore, Amy gained a Bachelor of Photography at the College of Photography. Amy then completed a Diploma and then Bachelor of Business at Swinburne University. While completing this last degree she ran her own business, Clay Fine Food and Health in Carlton. While there, Amy handled budgets, the accounts and all related business procedures; controlled all sourcing and purchasing of food products; undertook all aspects of staff management; conducted public relations for the business through social media, food blogs and branding, and managed catering events. Amy fulfilled a similar role as manager of Long Paddock Food Store, Koondrook for almost four years prior to running her own business. Amy also has certificates in Ethical Procurement and Supply and is a member of the Public Relations Institute of Australia. She has also worked for two years as a marketing and business consultant for CourtHealth, Collins Street. Her interests range from sport to cultural activities.

Richard Broome

In my reports in the February and April **History News** I wrote about the very important contributions made to the RHSV by bequests and donations in the last few years. Equally important in terms of financial benefits have been three commissions we have been given to produce publications.

The first was a history of the Victorian Supreme Court of Victoria, **Judging for the People**. This project was brought to us by Dr Simon Smith, legal historian and former RHSV Vice President. He recognised the approaching 175th anniversary of the Supreme Court and proposed an approach the Chief Justice, Hon Marilyn Warren, to seek her willingness to commission the project, paying the RHSV a fee for service. She agreed, and Simon set about managing the project – finding volunteers to write a series of thematic chapters, editing the book, and with Dr Janey Carolan gathering financial contributions from the legal profession to pay the publishing costs. An exhibition about the Court was held at the RHSV, and Simon and Dr Andrew Lemon organised a conference at which a number of the authors spoke. The book was launched at a wonderful ceremony in the Supreme Court Library in April 2016. We are deeply indebted to Simon for initiating and managing the project which boosted the RHSV Foundation and has continued through sales to support our publications programme. Altogether, well over 100 volunteers contributed to the book

The second project was **Remembering Melbourne**, the beautiful, illustrated book about wonderful buildings that have been lost in Melbourne and its inner ring of suburbs. The concept was

brought to the RHSV by QBD Bookshop, the publishers of **Lost Brisbane**, a similar publication commissioned from the Royal Historical Society of Queensland. It was such a success that the QBD invited us to prepare a book on Melbourne, based on the RHSV's images collection. Professor Richard Broome agreed to manage the project and set to work with a team including Richard Barnden, Don Gibb, Elisabeth Jackson and Judith Smart. It was decided to invite about twenty of Melbourne's historical societies to contribute images that captured what had been lost in their suburbs. The book was launched by Hon Richard Wynne in November 2016 and was a wonderful success. It sold like hot cakes and has continued, in a second printing, to boost the VHJ Fund that Richard Broome set up to ensure the long-term viability of the **Victorian Historical Journal**.

More recently, in 2017 we were approached by the Athenaeum Club to write and illustrate a series of special newsletters to mark the centenary year of the club in 2018. Once again, Richard Broome took charge and recruited a number of volunteers who have contributed short decade summaries for the beautifully produced publications. It is expected that the articles will subsequently be combined into a booklet.

These projects have brought significant financial benefits to the RHSV. However, equally important to me, they have demonstrated the depth and generosity of our volunteer community, and have enhanced the recognition and reputation of the RHSV.

What a commission can do!

Don Garden



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Vera Deakin's World of Humanity

Roger Harley, grandson of Vera Deakin White, launched 'Vera Deakin's World of Humanity', an exhibition curated by Carole Woods, at the RHSV on 26 April before about 80 people. Associate Professor Don Garden, RHSV president, and Carole presented Judith Harley, daughter of Vera Deakin White, with a framed certificate and flowers in honour of her support for over 51 years as a member of the RHSV.

This is Roger Harley's speech.

Let me commence by paying my respect to the Kulin Nation, the traditional owners of this land and notably to their elders past and present.

I also pay my respects to the Royal Historical Society of Victoria, including their Fellows, Office Bearers and Members past and present. I especially acknowledge the President, Associate Professor Don Garden, Executive Officer, Rosemary Cameron, and last, but not least, Honorary Secretary and Curator of this exhibition, Carole Woods.

And finally, I pay my respect to elders past and present of Vera Deakin's family – all family members here today – especially my mother, Judith Harley, the youngest and now only surviving daughter of Vera.

I am sure that I speak for all my family in commending you Carole on this exhibition, it is truly remarkable.

I stand here at the invitation of Carole who has asked me to share some personal recollections on Vera.

These come from my perspective as a middle ranking grandchild. I was born one week after my grandfather, Thomas White, died unexpectedly of a heart attack in 1957. My recollections commence in the 1960s and conclude on Vera's death at the age of 86 when I was 20.

Vera the Matriarch

It will come as no surprise that from my vantage point Vera was the Matriarch of the family.

As the Matriarch she was the focal point that drew the family together and through her generosity and pastoral care provided the fertile environment that was required for me, as well as the other grandchildren, to build rich and fulfilling relationships not only with her, but also with my three sets of aunts and uncles and eight cousins.

She was a kind matriarch, she led by example, and was never overbearing and light on instruction. She was ordered, prepared and purposeful. She was observant, she knew you and cared deeply. She brought out the best in you. She gently conveyed to you an ethos 'that what you did mattered'.

Vera the Custodian

She was the owner and custodian of 'Ballara' the family holiday house, at Point Lonsdale which she inherited from her mother. A simple house yet full of history and character that features prominently in Judith Brett's recently published **The Enigmatic Mr Deakin**.

Her custodianship of the house saw her not only seek to preserve the integrity and character of the house that was developed by her parents – but continue its role as a place of hospitality for the family and family friends. The house is set amongst natural bush that she loved and worked in, clearing and taming it into her 80s.

She was also a custodian – to historians, institutions such as Deakin University and the National Library as well as the family – of Alfred Deakin's legacy. Something she approached with care and undertook in a way that was not laboured - allowing AD's personality and life story to gently resonate, instruct and inspire.

No doubt, she was also a custodian of the

memories of anguish, heroism and sacrifice, etched from her service with the Red Cross in both wars. She rarely mentioned her war experience. However, I vividly remember when she recounted the story of the heroic sacrifice of a sailor who swam away from a life raft to make way for a comrade who had a wife and child.

There were two occasions each year when her standing as someone truly extraordinary and revered amongst veterans could not be hidden. Both were on ANZAC Day – one serving coffee to veterans at the break of dawn after the Dawn Service, which she did for nearly 50 years commencing in the 1930s. The other was at a reunion of members of the Australian Flying Corps held at her home in Kensington Rd, South Yarra. My memories of these occasions evoke for me raw emotion. I observed the adoration and deep respect that was shown to her by veterans at the Dawn Service; and I witnessed later that day, the adoration and deep respect shown by Thomas White's comrades from the Australian Flying Corps.

In addition to Matriarch and Custodian there are two other elements of my grandmother's character I wish to touch on – the adventurer and the philanthropist

Vera the Adventurer

The artefacts, paintings, photographs and books on display in the front room of the



Judith Harley with Don Garden and Carole Woods

Kensington Road House that Thomas and Vera created, revealed a passion for adventure, travel and friendships that traversed the globe. Visiting Vera, or one better still, staying with her, was a rich immersive experience. There was no need to tune into Disney Land, she and Thomas were true adventurers.

Pride of place at her Kensington Road residence, was the desk that was presented to her by the Red Cross in recognition of her service as Commandant of the Victorian Division during the Second War.

At Kensington Road she recounted to me the story of how she won her father's approval to travel to Cairo in 1915 to serve with the Red Cross. Her father was strongly opposed to the proposition, but he was won over when she opened her Bible on the quote: 'And they went into Egypt and prospered'.

Also, at Kensington Road, she told me the tale of Thomas White's proposal. Within three weeks of meeting after Thomas arrived in London in early 1919, he had proposed three times. The first two times he was rejected abruptly. The last time she accepted.

It struck me at the time unusual that she would share with me the drama and detail of the proposal. In hindsight, it showed that she was a keen observer of this grandchild and knew that it would be wise to encourage him to have a thick skin in romantic endeavours and not to give up in the face of persistent rejection.

Vera the Philanthropist

As a teenager I accompanied Vera to a Yooralla facility at Carrum Downs, attending an event celebrating the introduction of music therapy to the 'handicapped' residents. This left a lasting impression, as Vera had championed the introduction of Red Cross music therapy and appropriately had high expectations of the benefits it would bring. Vera's approach to her charity work, what we now call 'philanthropy', was uncomplicated – she saw a need and met it, she rolled up her sleeves and did the work.

I am inclined to believe that two objects that are to this day hanging on the walls at Ballara provide an insight to her motivation for this work. They are: a wooden masonite tile inscribed with the words 'God is love'; and a character sketch featuring Thomas White that includes the caption 'A thing of Duty is a Joy forever'

Vera's legacy as a 'hands on' philanthropist, spanning the Red Cross, Yooralla and the Royal Children's Hospital, is instructive and inspiring. I have no doubt that if there was a hall of fame for the leading Australian philanthropists in the 20th century, she would feature prominently.

Another object that you could not miss in the front room of 32 Kensington Road was a silver inkwell stand featuring the inscription 'from a friend to a friend' a gift from Lord Northcote, the third Governor General of Australia to Alfred Deakin. This remains a powerful and evocative symbol of the cherished, sustaining and vital role that friendship played in Vera's life as well as that of her father. As a grandchild of Vera, I was blessed by the warmth and generosity of her remarkable collection of friends and their families.

I knew Vera when she was an older woman - a widow in her 70s and 80s. In her last couple of years, she was frail, but she was never old. She was a woman of purpose, faith, love and courage whose legacy continues to inspire and instruct this grandchild.

I will move briefly to open the exhibition. Carole Woods generously provided me with a guided tour earlier this week – which I highly recommend to all. Moving with Carole through the exhibition you will soon discover that behind each exhibit there is an important and multi-veined story, and this exhibition represents only the tip of the iceberg of her research.

I found the exhibition not only moving but challenging.

It invites us to walk in Vera's shoes –



Roger Harley's launch address

something I had not done before. As a 24-year-old girl, at a time when nearly all senior administration roles were dominated by men or titled women, during a time of crisis, she succeeded in managing a vital humanitarian service of vast scale and complexity. It is a story that needs to be told.

Now that 100 years has transpired, it is appropriate that we lift our focus beyond the role played by the servicemen to give due credit to the heroic role played by the Red Cross and other humanitarian aid workers.

Carole the exhibition is remarkable. Congratulations, it is undoubtedly the product of diligent and creative research. I marvel at the efforts that you must have gone to locate and select the material. The title 'Vera Deakin's World of Humanity' is so very apt. Like any great production – it leaves one enthralled, but also with a longing for the sequel.

I have much pleasure in declaring the Exhibition open.



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Halls of Fame:

The Fryerstown Hall - The Burke & Wills Institute

In 1861, in the thriving goldfields town of Fryerstown, just outside Castlemaine, the community banded together to raise £300 to build a lasting memorial to intrepid explorers Robert O'Hara Burke and William Wills.

Burke had been Police Superintendent in Castlemaine prior to his ill-fated venture to the Gulf of Carpentaria. The local community remembered him with great affection, so the funds were used to build a memorial hall and, when the handsome red brick building was completed in late 1843, it proudly bore the name 'The Burke and Wills Mechanics Institute'.

The name Mechanics Institute was an indication of the serious intent of the founders. The concept of a Mechanics Institute had its beginnings in England and was transferred to the goldfields. The miners were often simple labourers: farm-workers, stonemasons and shepherders, artisans and craftsmen. While there were a number among the digging fraternity who had received formal education (including a disproportionate number of Irish lawyers) few had little more than the most basic education.

Some of these miners sought knowledge about the world in which they were engaged, that is, the world of mining. In communities like Fryerstown locals cobbled together their own educational resources and then built a hall as a centre for that knowledge. Such halls were soon dotted across the early goldfields. Some had the words 'Mechanics Institute' cast in cement set upon their parapet, others, with loftier aspirations later called themselves 'Schools of Art', although their purpose was to deliver a general education at a time when sciences and engineering were considered an essential part of the arts.

At the time Fryerstown and its immediate district had a population of almost 10,000. Today it houses just a couple of hundred, yet the hall remains at the centre of the town's activities.

Built at a time when individual houses were quite small, residents used their halls for all kinds of social occasions where families and larger groups gathered together: from weddings to birthdays, baptisms to funerals; meetings and

dances — the local hall was always at the centre of a small town's social life.

And so, it was in Fryerstown. The local Masonic Lodge held its meetings in the hall and, during times of economic downturn, the hall even served as a community welfare centre where locals, facing financial difficulties, were granted small amounts of money to help them through troubled times.

Dances were held on Saturday night. Recently the hall hosted the launch of a book by photographer Julie Hough, who grew up on the family farm not far from the hall, and her father, 90-year-old Jimmy Coles, entertained the crowd playing the spoons as he had as a young man at the local dance.

A feature of the hall's interior is a splendid painted backdrop on the raised stage depicting a stylised rural landscape, while another wall bears testament to those locals who served and sacrificed in defence of the realm with a memorial board on which the names of those locals are memorialised in gold.

With over a hundred years of use the community became worried about the state of the old hall and, with the aim of raising funds for repairs and ongoing maintenance, a local identity, who had begun dealing in collectables, pre-loved furniture and antique goods, established the Fryerstown Antique Fair in the hall.

For forty years, what began as a small collection of like-minded traders who pitched their shelters and spread their wares on long trestles under the broad shade of the old gumtrees crowding the gully running beside the hall, the fair grew like topsy. The Annual Fryerstown Antique Fair drew hundreds of traders, and they, in turn, drew thousands of visitors.

Held over three days on the Australia Day public holiday weekend each year, vehicles backed up for almost a kilometre along the roads leading to the Mechanics Institute in the tiny



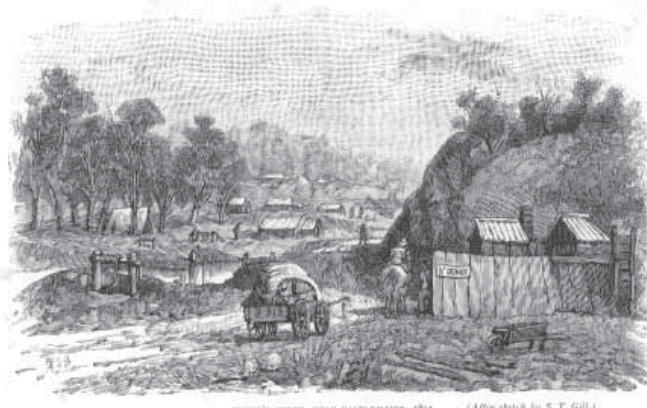
Hall Interior Geoff Hocking on LHS

hamlet. Visitors made their way to the hall where they joined an expectant throng, all eager to find a bargain or that one piece missing from their collection.

While it certainly met its initial purpose of providing funds for the maintenance of the hall, over and over again — the hall today is in tip-top condition — the local fire brigade began to show concern. A succession of hot, dry and dusty Januaries brought about the demise of the Fryerstown Antique Fair. The fire hazard, coupled with the extreme difficulty of evacuating thousands of visitors, along narrow country roads and through a state forest, meant the Fair was no longer an acceptable risk.

While the Antique Fair was relocated successfully to the Campbell's Creek Recreation Reserve, the Fryerstown Mechanics Institute still stands proudly at the centre of a community it has served with distinction for over 150 years.

Geoff Hocking, Artist and Writer



Fryers's Creek after TS Gilll Courtesy Geoff Hocking

'What's On' part of History News for so long has gone digital!

It now appears regularly in your email in-box from the RHSV's Executive Officer Rosemary Cameron and on our website www.historyvictoria.org.au But below are brief details of key upcoming events at the RHSV.

AGL SHAW LECTURE: CHARLES LA TROBE AND HUGH CHILDERS – THE LADDER OF SUCCESS IN VICTORIA by Michael O'Brien.

This lecture sponsored by the RHSV and La Trobe Society will be held on **TUESDAY 19 JUNE, 6:30-8:00pm**. The cost is \$35pp. Please note this lecture is not free for RHSV members.

Bookings: <https://www.trybooking.com/VLAA>

SATURDAY 30 JUNE TOUR OF THE ATHENAEUM CLUB

Time: 10am

Cost: \$20pp.

Booking: <https://www.trybooking.com/USSH>

We are fortunate to be able to offer our members a tour of the historic Melbourne Athenaeum Club, a private men's only club that has been resident in Collins Street for 150 years. Private clubs are notoriously difficult to access – even on-line history is sparse – so this tour is a great opportunity to learn about an institution nearly as old as the state itself.

Celebrate Rare Book Week

With two free lectures on **MONDAY 2 JULY** interspersed by morning tea

11 am Ephemera Society speaker

1pm Rod Reynolds, archivist of the Royal Melbourne Philharmonic Society will speak of some rare gems from the RMPS's collection.

History Book Fair - Advanced Notice

Wednesday 22 August: Members Only Preview. The RHSV's world famous 2nd hand history Book Fair is on again in late August over several weeks.

To make donations of history (only) books deliver them to the RHSV in office hours or ring Amy on 9326 9288 to organise a collection.

To attend events which are 'Members Only' you must be a current member of the RHSV, not an affiliated historical society. After the preview night, the sale will continue and will be open to all.

HOLDSWORTH LOCAL HERITAGE TRUST GRANTS

Applications close 31 July 2018

The Trust supports heritage preservation and appreciation, and the enhancement of community life.

It invites applications for grants from not-for-profit organisations such as historical societies, clubs, schools and museums in regional and rural Victoria. The RHSV auspices the generous grants process of the Holsworth Local Heritage Trust.

Grants of up to \$2,000 are available for the publication of any specific or general local history or natural history in rural and regional Victoria. More information and application forms: <http://www.historyvictoria.org.au/programs/holsworth-local-heritage-trust>

History Victoria Support Group Update.

Reminder: Nagambie Seminar, 'Housing our Societies' Saturday 23 June 2018. Hosted by Nagambie & District Historical Society.

Contact: office@historyvictoria.org.au or 93269288

Bookings: <https://www.trybooking.com/USRL>

Advanced Notice: Melbourne Seminar, Sunday, 19 August 2018. Hosted by RHSV. For the program see July History News.

Alleyne Hockley, HVSG Convenor.



HISTORY WEEK & VERA MOORE GRANTS

Applications close 15 June 2018

The Vera Moore Foundation generously supports History Week and the specific grants program, to encourage our member societies to develop event/s to be part of the History Week program

Celebrate History Week (7-14 October 2018) again this year and register your events on the History Week website, where there are also suggested event ideas <http://historyweek.org.au/>

The RHSV invites historical societies and heritage groups to apply for a grant of up to \$350 to support the printing of a promotional colour brochure. To find out more and to apply download the 2018 Colour Brochure Grant Application: <http://www.historyvictoria.org.au/programs/history-week-brochure-grant>

VICTORIAN COMMUNITY HISTORY AWARDS

Entries close 2pm Friday 20 July 2018.

This year we celebrate 20 years of the Victorian Community History Awards, a project which was initiated by the RHSV and which it has fiercely supported over the decades to ensure the awards' survival. The awards remain the major recognition for the best community history projects in Victoria.

The award ceremony is the highlight of History Week and will be held on Monday 8 October 2018.

An entry form and more information can be downloaded from:

<http://www.historyvictoria.org.au/programs/victorian-community-history-awards>

The VCHA is funded by the State Government of Victoria through the Public Records Office of Victoria.



FRIDAY 22 JUNE TRIVIA-A-GO-GO

Time: 6:30pm

Cost: \$20pp.

Booking: <https://www.trybooking.com/VWCW>

Fancy yourself a bit of a history buff? Of course you do! Time to get competitive and test yourself against all those other history buffs at the RHSV Trivia-a-go-go. Put together a table or come along by yourself and join our group table/s. Battle it out for some great prizes and you are fundraising for the RHSV at the same time. Win-win.

We will provide a cash bar, but you are more than welcome to bring your own nibbles.



TUESDAY 17 JULY

Lunch-time lecture, drinks 12noon, lecture 12:30pm

'VICTORIA: THE MADDEST PLACE ON EARTH'

by Jill Giese explores the high rate of apparent insanity in post goldrush Victoria

Cost: Free for RHSV members, \$10 for non-members.

Booking: <https://www.trybooking.com/VYBF>

Bright Star for London

The RHSV is delighted about Christine's exciting new opportunities in moving to London with her family in late June. Yet it deeply regrets the loss of such a talented member of our community.

Christine Worthington has been a dynamic force on our staff since coming to the RHSV in 2016 as Collections Manager and Volunteer Coordinator. After completing VCE at Galen College, Wangaratta, Christine completed a BA at Deakin University, a Diploma of Librarianship and Information Studies at Swinburne University, and a Masters of Information Studies at Charles Sturt University. Prior to her time at the RHSV, Christine was the librarian at the Prahran Mechanics Institute for sixteen years and a sessional teacher in Library and Information Studies at Swinburne for two years. She has published articles on public membership libraries and on the PMI and has certification and professional development credentials from the Australian Library and Information Association.

Christine has excelled in the areas of volunteer management, and the globalisation and digitisation of our collection. She has also proselytised this message to our many affiliated societies through one to one advice, seminars and the written word.

Christine's work with our volunteers since 2016 has been exceptional and she has built a wonderful **esprit de corps** among this vital group within the RHSV. People have not only felt valued under Christine's leadership, but have been guided to greater skills and satisfaction in their work. Christine has brought a new professionalism to the management of the volunteers' efforts, which has meant the clearing of backlogs in the work of cataloguing manuscripts, significant book donations from various sources, and consolidating the ephemera and pamphlet collections, among other achievements.

The showcasing of the RHSV's collections had been facilitated by Christine's work to change our catalogue to eHive which is compatible with the Trove database sponsored by the National Library of Australia. Our collections' global visibility has increased inquiries, honed them to save our volunteers time, and in the future, it will help generate income. The cloud-based catalogue has permitted unlimited



concurrent users and has enabled the recruitment of more cataloguers to increase our cataloguing power.

Christine has also inspired and managed the digitisation of our archival collection and such gems as the pioneers' register. This will secure these and other parts of our collection for posterity and increase their on-site accessibility. Christine has mentored Sophie Shilling who is now driving digitisation to protect our unique collections into the future.

During massive transformations in staffing in late 2017 Christine alone held the RHSV administration together, for which we owe her a great debt.

Asked for a comment for this column, Christine Worthington wrote:

'I am extremely proud of the positive impact I've been able to make at the RHSV over the past two years and it was only possible with the cheerful indulgence, support and cooperation of the volunteer team, amazing staff and RHSV Council. I am privileged to have had the opportunity to grow professionally in such a family friendly, respectful and beautiful environment over this time while I juggled motherhood, my Masters course and the requirements of ALIA professional certification. I wish everyone at RHSV all the best for the very exciting times ahead!'

Richard Broome



A Willing Volunteer up for any Challenge

John Rose began volunteering at the RHSV in 2005 after spending most of his working life either in accounting or in the supermarket industry. Initially spending time in cataloguing library items, he assisted in the creation of a recorded walking tour of half of the Melbourne CBD area, but regrets not having the opportunity to complete it. He then became involved with the general tidying up of most of the Society's part of the building, helping to create more usable space.

This was achieved with the valuable help of David Thompson and over the past 10 years he has thoroughly enjoyed assisting him to mount some wonderful exhibitions, erect new library shelving and build computer desks as well. They have performed countless D.I.Y. tasks throughout the building. He also assisted in the sorting, preparing and display of books, donated to the Society for the annual sale - and one year he managed the book sale himself.

For the past two years he has worked in the Images Room, in charge of the Map section. His first task was to process some 2000 donated Parish maps, which included sorting, checking for duplication and cataloguing nearly 1400 of them.

His latest assignments have included a suggested plan to make better use of the administration area, and preparation of a long overdue Key Register for all the doors and cabinets in the Society's premises. Yes, he does like any challenge!



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Some Good News on Heritage!



Land Titles Office, 247-83 Queen Street, north of Lonsdale Street. Courtesy State Library of Victoria.



Proposed Tower Over Titles Office, 247 Queen Street, Architects' Rendering (image: John Wardle Architects). This proposal was rejected by Heritage Victoria.

On 14 May, the Melbourne City Council announced that, contrary to initial pronouncements, it would not appeal Heritage Victoria's refusal of a permit to redevelop the Queen Victoria Market. Heritage Victoria accepted the RHSV's position: the proposal involved unacceptable modern intrusions into the historic market sheds. The MCC must now respect the spirit of the QV Market.

Heritage Victoria also shone by refusing a permit for Victoria University to erect a 17-storey tower on top of the Land Titles Office, one of Victoria's great nineteenth-century public buildings. The bulky and aggressive tower would have crushed this splendid building (see illustrations).

The Titles Office is an essential part of Melbourne's architecturally outstanding colonial legal complex. It was designed by J.J. (John James) Clark (1838–1915), who also designed the Old Treasury on Spring Street at the age of 19; he joined the Public Works Department at 14! Clark later assisted William Wardell in designing Government House and ended his career with the City Baths (1904).

The National Trust, Melbourne Heritage Action and the RHSV all missed the announcement of the permit application. There is only a 14-day period for community groups to make submissions, while government bodies have 60 days! We have called for a longer period, but so far in vain. We wrote a strong late submission and Heritage Victoria acted in the spirit of our submission.

The RHSV and local residents had a partial victory at VCAT, regarding Saint Vincent's latest development. Its proposed tower

must retain the 1930 Spanish Mission facade of Easthill House, a building protected under a Heritage Overlay. The Tribunal also modified slightly the bulk and aggressive design of the proposed eleven-storey tower. But it will still impact mightily, Dodgshun House, Brunswick Street (formerly Edensor, 1865 with 1890 extension,) and the Eastern Hill Hotel, Victoria Parade (1854-6). The RHSV's stance featured in the **Age** ('Two Fitzroy towers "cavalier,"' 5 May 2018).

Both these buildings are on the Register, so why is VCAT involved rather than Heritage Victoria? The hospital, which sought a planning approval first, but must now apply to Heritage Victoria. The RHSV Heritage Committee will make a strong submission against the current proposal approved by VCAT. This case highlights the confusion in Victoria's heritage legislation: permit decisions affecting buildings on the register should go first to Heritage Victoria.

This case also highlights the confusion surrounding Heritage Overlays. Back in 2015, in our submission to the review of the Heritage Act, we pointed to the weakness of Heritage Overlays. They depend on under-resourced councils, are difficult to implement, and are all too frequently disregarded by VCAT. As a result, locals are often dismayed to discover that a prized local landmark has no protection or has been bulldozed despite a Heritage Overlay. We hope that Minister Wynne will address this issue.

Even getting a Heritage Overlay is difficult. Recently, in Beaumaris, resident fears of loss of property value prevented council from implementing a Heritage Overlay

(Tom Cowie, 'price threat stifles moves to heritage list Beaumaris' modernist homes', **Age**, 5 May 2018). Local historical societies can play a significant role, in supporting local councils that implement Heritage Overlays, and in calming irrational fears of home owners.

We have joined with the National Trust in preparing an Advocacy Toolkit, which will help individuals and local groups such as historical societies to nominate buildings for the Victorian Heritage Register, to work to obtain Heritage Overlays, and to contest or appeal efforts to alter or demolish protected sites. The toolkit was launched by the National Trust in conjunction with the RHSV at the Drill Hall on 16 May and is now available free online.

On a completely different front, we are facing a new and unusual issue. Should Apple, a private company, be allowed to demolish part of a public space to build a store? Federation Square is a unique civic complex that may soon qualify for heritage status. The eminent historian Graeme Davison posed the question in a ripper article in **The Conversation**, 19 February 2018: 'For what shall it profit a city if it loses its civic soul? A plea to preserve Melbourne's Fed Square'. 'Federation Square', he concluded, 'is already an important part of Melbourne's history, not just as a monument to the centenary of the nation, or for the symbols of civic and national identity it incorporates, but as the legacy of a long tradition'. The RHSV is committed to keeping this hard-won legacy intact for future generations.

Chips Sowerwine,
Chair RHSV Heritage Committee

Vibrant AGM Night

A large crowd gathered for the RHSV's 108th AGM and the lecture to follow. The AGM finalised a very difficult 2017 for the RHSV due to significant staff changes and administrative challenges. After the election of office bearers, the meeting turned to the pleasure of acknowledging those receiving awards due to outstanding service to the history movement.

Awards of Merit: There were three for 2017.

Sandra Sutcliffe, an RHSV volunteer since 2003, has been vital in answering research enquiries for the Society for many years, mentoring secondary school work experience placements, and Sandra initiated the volunteers' profiles in *History News* in 2017, now a regular and important item.

James Lerk a foundation member of the Bendigo Historical Society has made an enormous contribution to local history by giving by scores of lectures, conducting many walking tours, assisting the Society's publishing program, and contributing over a thousand articles on historical subjects to the *Bendigo Weekly*.

Peter Padreny has been a member of the Castlemaine Historical Society for twenty years and has served on many committees. He has been important in the society's finances, being involved in many fundraising efforts, and also vital to the upkeep of the society's building and grounds over many years.

Barbara Nixon Volunteer Award: A new award was instituted by Council this year to recognise the important work of RHSV volunteers, which is so appropriate as National Volunteer Week (21-27 May) occurred just after the AGM. This new honour is in memory of one of the RHSV's greatest volunteers. In this inaugural year there were two recipients Mandy Bede and Selina Heeps, their awards being presented by Ginny Nixon and James Nixon respectively, children of the late Barbara Nixon.

Mandy Bede, a volunteer since 2016, received her award for her excellent work in re-cataloguing and relocating the RHSV's ephemera collection, and initiating a new series of mini-exhibitions, 'the Cabinet of Curiosities'.

Selina Heeps, who became a volunteer in 2017 as part of her student placement in library and information studies, soon made significant contributions to our ehive cataloguing, the reclassification and recording of family histories in our collection and trained as a guide for our Flagstaff Walks.

New Initiatives Announced: The AGM was also presented with news of two new prizes, a new fund and a new named lecture.

The Don Gibb RHSV Prize in Australian History was made possible by the donation of \$10,000 by the Gibb family to create a perpetual annual student prize of \$300 plus a three-year membership of the RHSV, for the best student in Australian history at La Trobe University.

The John Adams Prize for the best article in any two-year period in the Victorian Historical Journal. This new biennial prize was made possible by a bequest of \$10,000 from the late John Adams, the VHJ's honorary indexer for decades. The prize is \$300 and three years' free membership of the RHSV.

Weston Bate Make History Live Fund arose from the giving which began at Weston Bate's memorial service. It is now close to \$10,000. The first project is to encourage a younger membership by offering current postgraduates in History one year's free membership of the RHSV. It will be offered to each university in Victoria on a one year's rotation.

The Weston Bate RHSV Oration to be an annual lecture at the AGM to honour the inspiring leadership of our former many-time president, Emeritus Professor Weston Bate.

The AGM over, a capacity audience of eighty people settled back to hear the first Weston Bate oration, given by Stuart Macintyre, Emeritus Laureate Professor of the University of Melbourne and Chair, Heritage Council of Victoria. His lecture on the theme of History and Heritage will be published in the December 2018 issue of the Victorian Historical Journal.

Richard Broome



LEFT TO RIGHT: Mandy Bede and Ginny Nixon. Sandy Sutcliffe and RHSV President Don Garden. Selina Heeps and James Nixon. Stuart Macintyre delivers the Weston Bate Oration

A Distinguished and Activist Councillor

Charles Sowerwine, known as 'Chips' from birth, grew up in New York, and graduated from Oberlin College, Ohio in 1965. He completed an MA (1967) and a PhD (1973) from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. His theses were respectively on French labour history in the Great Depression and women and socialism across the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. His PhD has been published in French and English, the latter as **Sisters or Citizens? Women and Socialism in France since 1870**. Among his other books is **France Since 1870. Culture Politics and Society**, now in a 3rd and fully revised edition. (2018) Chips left his home in the US in 1970 to teach at the University of Paris before taking an appointment at the University of Melbourne in 1974, rising to professor of Modern French History in 2002. Chips held many leadership positions at the University of Melbourne before retiring in 2007, becoming a professorial fellow, then emeritus professor. Chips remains affiliated with several universities in Melbourne and France and is a member of over a dozen learned societies, including the Australian Academy of the Humanities. Chips joined the National Trust on arrival in Melbourne in 1974. He became involved in urbanism and preservation issues, including, while living there, the first

heritage study of Fitzroy in 1979. He became President of the Public Transport Users' Association when this body was instrumental in saving the clocks at Flinders Street Station. It also overturned the 1980 Lonie Report, which sought closure of eight tram lines, six suburban rail lines and all regional rail lines except Geelong. His knowledge of the French **Carte Orange** convinced his fellow members of the ALP's State Transport Committee to push for the two-hour transport ticket in 1983. He has been vice president of the Bicycle Institute of Victoria. Architectural heritage and preservation were central to his **Wandering Scholar's Guide to Melbourne**, published by the University of Melbourne since 1996 (7th edition 2013). Undoubtedly, Chips has brought a wealth of experience to the Council since his appointment in 2013. He is noted for his careful examination of all issues that come before Council. He served initially on the Publications Committee and edited **History News** from 2014-2015, making it a more luminous publication. Chips followed his passion for heritage preservation by critiquing the 2016 heritage bill for the RHSV. Extensive arguments in this submission were read out in the Victorian Upper House in February 2017 by Opposition spokesman



Chips Sowerwine

on heritage matters, David Davis, who thanked the RHSV for its 'careful and considered points'. The submission is available on the RHSV website <http://www.historyvictoria.org.au/about-us/rhsv-heritage-committee>

Chips chairs the RHSV's Heritage Committee, which he, Judith Smart and Margaret Anderson instituted with Council approval in November 2016. This committee does much diligent work and careful analysis of key development issues in Melbourne that should concern us all. This work is done in coalition with other groups such as the National Trust. This committee's reports are located on our website at the address above, and its campaigns appear regularly in **History News**.

Richard Broome

Rare Dutch honour conferred on RHSV member

Retired Melbourne lawyer and RHSV member Noel Jackling, was invested as a Ridder (Knight) of the Order of Oranje-Nassau of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, by the Dutch Ambassador Her Excellency Mrs Erica Schouten on 6 March 2018. He is one of about eight Ridders in Australia. This award was for 'his longstanding and dedicated work on the promotion of the Uiver story, and the preservation and extension of the now heritage-listed Uiver collection at the Albury Library/Museum'.

Noel has researched the Uiver, a KLM Royal Dutch Airlines Douglas DC-2 that

flew in the 1934 London to Melbourne MacRobertson International Centenary Air Race. Because of the innovative actions of several Albury men, the **Uiver** survived a fierce electrical storm by making a safe emergency landing on the Albury Racecourse at 1:17am on 24 October 1934. A few hours later, after the bogged Uiver was manually dragged to drier ground, it took off, and finished the race at the RAAF base at Laverton, winning the handicap prize. The RHSV's exhibition in 2015 'Nail Can to Knighthood: the Life of Sir Macpherson Robertson', referred to this incident.



Her Excellency Mrs Erica Schouten and Noel Jackling wearing his award. Courtesy David Thurley

Murders in Melbourne

– RICHMOND



The O'Brien family home, Bosisto Street, Richmond. Courtesy Noel Turner

Inner-suburban Richmond was incorporated as a municipality on 24 April 1855 and achieved city status on 17 February 1882. As one of Melbourne's first suburbs, Richmond has had over 160 years to accumulate a large number of murders.

Martha Needle became arguably Victoria's first serial killer when she murdered her husband, three children and her future brother-in-law between February 1885 and May 1894. Her choice of weapon was rat poison mixed with meals, with the motive being insurance fraud. Martha was born in Morgan, South Australia in 1863 and was aged 17 when she married Henry Needle in Adelaide. The family moved to Cubitt Street Richmond in 1885. There, Martha embarked upon her plan to murder her husband Henry, and daughters, Mabel, 3, May, 5 and Elise, 7. Her fifth victim was Louis Juncken, who had argued against his brother Otto forming a relationship, with the then-widowed Martha. Herman Juncken had arrived in Melbourne to settle his brother's affairs when Martha also tried to poison him. A trap was then set and police pounced when Herman was ready to drink a cup of tea laced with arsenic. Martha Needle was found guilty of murder and executed at the Old Melbourne Gaol on 22 October 1894.

Another Richmond family met its demise on Sunday, 27 May 1934 when Francis O'Brien, 58, killed his wife, Rose, 39, and children, Owen, 3, Joan, 2, and Marie, eleven months. Francis then committed suicide. The victims were all stabbed in their beds at the family home in Bosisto Street. Francis O'Brien was a wharf labourer who was struggling to maintain

his young family. This was however not Francis O'Brien's first family, nor his first murder. In 1924 Francis was happily married and living in Eleventh Street Mildura. He then had six children with his wife, Clara. Francis was the headmaster of the Mildura State School when, on 26 January 1924, he struck his wife to the head with a hammer as she slept. Clara O'Brien died on 30 January. Francis then spent four years in a mental hospital before he was released, only to become a multiple murderer in Richmond six years later.

The murder of a police officer is a rare event but one such murder occurred at the corner of Bridge Road and Church Street Richmond on the evening of 1 March 1943. Senior-Constable Frederick Edward Jones, 43, was standing on the footpath when a taxi headed east along Bridge Road. The taxi passenger was Norman Morris Searle, aged 24. As the vehicle passed through the intersection, Searle raised a .22 calibre rifle and fired at Jones who died almost instantly. The motive for the murder was that Searle had two years previously had a dispute with a First Constable William Teitz. Teitz and Searle met again on 1 March in the Australia Hotel, where Searle spent most of the day drinking. By the evening Searle was drunk and angry. It appears that in such a state he could not distinguish between Teitz and any other policeman and so Jones became an innocent victim. Frederick Jones was married with three children at the time of his death. Searle was convicted of murder and sentenced to death. His sentence was later commuted to life in prison. He was released on parole on 6 July 1959.

The streets of Richmond can be dangerous places, as underworld figure, Leslie Walkerden, 31, found out at 2.48am on Tuesday, 11 September 1945. Walkerden's car tyre had been deflated in Lennox Street and he was shot as he changed the tyre. Walkerden was allegedly involved in illegal baccarat games and was a member of the notorious Painters and Dockers' Union. Key suspects in his murder were fellow unionists and underworld figures, Freddie Harrison and Norman Bradshaw. Walkerden's murder remains an unsolved case. Harrison was murdered at South Wharf on 6 February 1958 while Bradshaw, who was acquitted over the 1951 murder of Percy Neville, died in a light plane crash into Port Phillip Bay, near Mornington on 15 October 1961.

A soured relationship is a common murder motive and one such case was the murder of nurse, Monica Guerin, 29, at Loyola Private Hospital in Church Street Richmond, at 8.40pm on Tuesday, 13 July 1954. Guerin had been engaged to ex-soldier, David Smith, 32, but she had called off the engagement. Smith had come out of military service with psychological issues and could not accept that his relationship with Guerin was over. He continually harassed her, even at her workplace. On the fateful July evening, Smith attacked Guerin in the hospital driveway and stabbed her in the head, chest and abdomen. He then shot himself in the head.

Richmond may be a bustling commercial centre today, but as these cases reveal, it has a chequered past.

Dr Noel Turner, RHSV Councillor

Around the Societies

Compiled by Glenda Beckley

We welcome Societies to submit an article/event of around 50 words, or email your Newsletter to us and we will write up around 50 words for you around twice per year.

BALWYN: Thursday 14 June 2018 – 8 pm
Speaker: Richard Peterson Topic: Balwyn Bungalows at the Balwyn Evergreen Centre, 45 Talbot Avenue, Balwyn.
Speaker: James Nicolas

BRIGHT: The museum is in the historic old Bright Railway Station. The museum also has rolling stock typical of that used on the old Ovens Valley Railway and covers railway history, gold mining history and also covers the social history of the area along with local family histories and a photographic collection.

A large number of Chinese miners worked in the gold fields and the museum has a reconstructed Chinese Joss House based on the one destroyed in the Buckland valley, and has a collection of artefacts from Chinese Miners and some of these artefacts are currently on display in our main display room.

BRIGHTON CEMETORIANS: July 1st – Glen Eira Story Telling Walk “Let us Entertain You” – 2pm - this walk will begin at front gate. Booking essential- Contact Lois on 9558 4248 – cost is \$15 per person – Members \$10.

As part of the Glen Eira Story Telling Festival we will be visiting a few of the many who were once household names in the entertainment industry – Austral Wilson better known as Strella Wilson the opera singer, Bob Horsfall who appeared regularly on the radio, was part of the Tunetwisters and starred in Blue Heelers, Division 4 as well as other TV shows, Victor Prince who was an actor, comedian, troupe proprietor and Jack O’Hagan Singer/Songwriter best remembered for Along the road to Gundagai.

BRUNSWICK COMMUNITY: ‘The First Fleet’ by Rick Stonehouse. 2 June 1:30 -3:30 at Sherwood House, 33 Saxon Street, Brunswick. For more information, please contact Francesca on 93871194.

CIVIL AVIATION: Seventy years ago, “Interavia” Notes, 16 February 1948

Land Ownership at Main Airports: ‘Some time ago Federal Cabinet decided that all land and buildings within main airports should be controlled by the Department of Civil Aviation. On Feb. 12 Federal Govt. announced its intention of acquiring whole of Australian National Airways’ freehold property at Essendon Airport. H.F. Walsh, general manager for ANA, who described property as company’s “headquarters estate” and as essential

to operations as it included workshops, machine shops, store and catering department, said ANA would resist “grab” to extent of High Court litigation.

Director General of Civil Aviation (Air Marshal Williams) said the Commonwealth found itself with a large airport with some privately owned land in the centre. The land would be owned by the Government and would be leased to ANA with “reasonable tenure”.

Prime Minister Chifley indicated this was only the beginning of acquisition. Other property at Sydney and Adelaide airports would be taken over by the Crown.

Long range plans for aviation operations which were proceeding, provided for secondary airports at all capital cities’.

COBRAM: The 34th Annual Antique and Collectables Fair will be held at the Cobram Civic Centre, Punt Road, Cobram on Saturday 16 June from 10:00 – 5:00 and Sunday 17th June from 10:00 – 4:00.

COLAC: Our Society was established in 1950, making Colac one of the first regional townships in the state to have such an organisation. We are co-located with the Colac and District Family History Group at the COPACC Building, Gellibrand Street, Colac. Entrance opposite the Colac Railway Station. The Society’s collection includes maps, photographs, ephemera, books of local relevance, and original manuscript material. Newspapers from the 1880s to the present day are available on microfilm, and in some cases, in hard copy. A range of clothing has been suitably stored, complemented by furniture and other objects of district significance. There is a wide-ranging collection of school material, including the archive of the former Colac High School, and data relating to the former Colac Technical School.

HAWTHORN: Saturday 7 July - Saturday 26 August – Town Hall Exhibition is a major interactive exhibition being organised by the society. It will be on display in the Hawthorn Arts Centre (Previously Hawthorn Town Hall). This is a wonderful opportunity for us to showcase the history and heritage of Hawthorn.

HORSHAM: An item from the Horsham Times, 1895: ‘Something in the way, in a very primitive way it is true, of providing public baths at Horsham has been accomplished. As a result of the representations made last week by Mr

Moon the council has now cleared out and snagged the large hole immediately below the weir and the two outlets from it, one on either side of ‘the island’, blocked up with barricades of sandbags, a small channel being left on one side. The result is an excellent swimming basin with a depth varying from two to eight feet. The water will be relieved by the small channel and occasional freshened by an inflow from the weir, and its purity thus preserved. It is proposed that the hours during which bathing shall be allowed shall be from seven in the evening of one day to eight in the morning of the next. It is, however, to be hoped that some concessions will be made in this direction and the prescribed time made to be between six in the evening and nine in the morning. It is proposed that all persons using the baths shall be decently clothed and that certain days and hours shall be set apart for ladies. The council does not see its way to provide anything in the shape of bathing house accommodation. This will be left to the enterprise of the townspeople or of those of them likely to be inconvenienced (sic) by the baths. The baths are now available for use.’

MALVERN: 20 June, 10:00 – 11:00. History Matters: Northbrook – Who’s been sleeping in this house? The History Centre’s Janet Buick will tell the story of ‘Northbrook’ and the people who designed, built and lived in the house. She will provide a glimpse of the high life, including the balls and social events held here before it was purchased by the Malvern Council in 1945. At the end of the talk, she will conduct a tour of the house. Book online or call 82901360

MIDDLE PARK: 100 YEARS AGO – an article from The Record, published at Emerald Hill, Saturday, 4 May 1918. ‘The White Australia policy was introduced in 1901 to fight the immigration of non-white groups to Australia, particularly those of Asian descent. It is therefore noteworthy that an obituary should be written for a man of Chinese descent who died in May 1918. However, Louis Ah Mouy was a remarkable man who arrived in Victoria in 1851 and settled in Middle Park around 1884, first in Canterbury Road and then in Nimmo Street, where he was living at the time of his death. You can read a full account of the Ah Mouy family in the Middle Park History Group’s book “Middle Park, from swamp to suburb”

FOR THE JULY 2018 ISSUE

please send details to
office@historyvictoria.org.au
by 10 June 2018.

MORWELL: We are looking for someone who was at school in or around Morwell in 1954 and went by train from Morwell to Traralgon to see the Queen. Would you please consider writing a story about your experience and sending it to us. email: secretary@morwellhistoricalsociety.org.au

OUYEN: The Society is located at the Old Court House, 77 Oke Street, Ouyen. It's open each Friday from 9:30 – 4:00. The Centre houses material collected from the southern part of the Mildura Rural City Council (formerly the Shire of Walpeup). The photographic collection is a special feature, comprising around 2,500 black and white photographs. Microfilm of the early Ouyen newspapers from 1911, oral history recordings, maps, books, district records and ephemera are also included.

SEYMOUR: 175th Anniversary – Naming of Seymour. The 10-11th November 2018 was moved and seconded and agreed on to be the weekend of the 175th Anniversary Celebrations for Seymour. Incidentally the word for 175th Anniversary is “Terquasquicentennial”. The Seymour Fire Brigade will be celebrating 125 years of service to the community in 2018. The Seymour Agricultural and Pastoral Society will be celebrating 160 years also this year. The planning at this stage is a “work in progress” and it is hoped to have a committee happening in the not too distant future. If you have any suggestions/ideas to add to make the weekend better, and something for everyone to remember the weekend, please let us know.

ST JOHN AMBULANCE: At the next quarterly meeting on 12 July, Dr Edward Brentnall will describe the influences which led to the decision that saw the need for specialized staff in public hospital Emergency Departments. Dr Brentnall was one of the first doctors to be appointed specifically to direct these services in a major public hospital.

YARRA GLEN: May marks two significant anniversaries in our history – the end of the First World War 100 years ago, and the establishment of our local school 150 years ago. The first shows how world events can have a significant effect on the smallest communities, and the second shows how a small community can meet its own important needs. Our Society has a vital role in ensuring that records of our history are preserved and made available to the community. We regularly provide displays for the RSL on Anzac Day and Remembrance Day, and are pleased to be assisting the Yarra Glen Primary School with the history of the school for the celebration of its anniversary. Representatives of the Society also attend public meetings and provide input relating to proposed and ongoing developments in the community such as the Yarra Valley Railway, the sale of the Maternal & Infant Welfare Centre in 2016, and the design of the walking trail through the recreation reserve. A local Historical Society is important to the community. Please keep this in mind as our Annual General Meeting draws closer (9th September).

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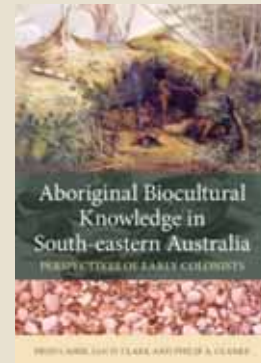
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Books Received

By Lee Sulkowska

BOOKS

Authors, publishers and Historical Societies are invited to contribute books to the RHSV for the library and for consideration for inclusion in Books Received.



Aboriginal Biocultural Knowledge in South-Eastern Australia: Perspectives of Early Colonists

Fred Cahir, Ian D. Clark, Philip A. Clarke, CSIRO Publishing, Melbourne Australia, 2018, pp v-334, ISBN 9781486306114

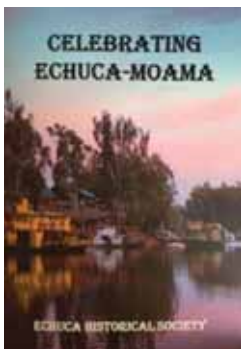
The writers have compiled a comprehensive textbook of Aboriginal spiritual and ecological knowledge of South East Australia. Interestingly the sources used are the records of the early European colonialists, as the Aboriginal tribes they interacted with had no record keeping systems. The subjects studied are incredibly broad; from totemic symbols, to earth and water spirits, to food, water, fire, housing, clothing, medicine, trade, space and time. This is a valuable record of Aboriginal knowledge and with the assistance of contemporary Aboriginal community members, this knowledge should be built upon to better conserve both Aboriginal culture, and Australian ecology.



Australia in Arms: The Story of Gallipoli

Phillip Schuler introduced by Paul Ham, The Text Publishing Company, Melbourne Victoria, 2018, pp vii-308, ISBN 97819256033453

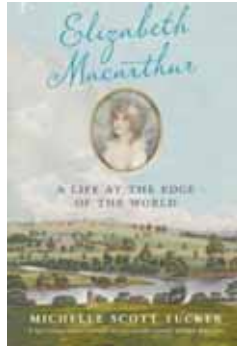
This book is a potentially divisive first-hand account of the ANZAC landing at Gallipoli by Phillip Schuler, a newspaper correspondent in the Great War. Schuler's account is of course harrowing and touching as he saw in real time the horrors of the doomed campaign. What is noteworthy however is his style of writing, his descriptions of war are almost lines of tragic poetry. The introduction by Paul Ham, who understands that ANZAC literature is a bone of contention amongst historians, gently touches on the themes of nation making, ANZAC hero worship and stresses the importance of viewing Schuler's account as primary source material, rather than a historical analysis



Celebrating Echuca-Moama: A Pictorial Record,

Echuca Historical Society Inc, Echuca Victoria, 2018, pp 48, ISBN 9780992414979

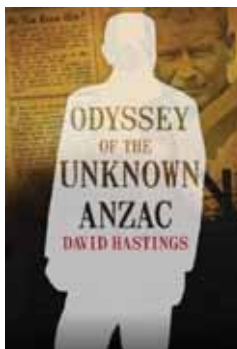
The Echuca Historical Society have put together a pleasing visual record of their town in this small book. Aware that they are fortunate to live in a truly picturesque part of Victoria, the society have documented through historical photographs and informative captions, the important role the river has played in the making of the town. A series of 'then' vs 'now' pictures of landmarks and streets in the town show the reader how the town has changed (or in some cases, not!) through the years. The book is a testament to how passionate the Historical Society members feel about their town.



Elizabeth Macarthur: A Life at the Edge of the World

Michelle Scott Tucker, The Text Publishing Company, Melbourne Victoria, 2018, pp ix-386, ISBN 9781925603422

Tales of subversive women are extremely satisfying, and this excellently written biography of Elizabeth Macarthur is no exception. The first military wife to settle in the Australian colonies, Elizabeth survived and thrived against tremendous odds, from the treacherous second fleet crossing, rudimentary colony economy and politics through to managing her unstable husband's business ventures. Tucker is faithful in painting Elizabeth (and her husband John) as imperfect people. Although Elizabeth was materialistic and small minded, a product of her Georgian upbringing, her humanity has been recorded without taking away from the extraordinary achievements of her lifetime.

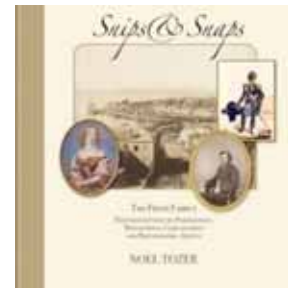


Odyssey of the Unknown ANZAC

David Hastings, Monash University Publishing, Melbourne Victoria, 2018, pp i-185, ISBN 9781925523539

George McQuay was an ordinary man from an ordinary town, thrown in to the extraordinarily brutal Great War. Likely suffering from a mental illness, he ended up in an asylum for 10 years before he could reunite with his family. Hastings has written a refreshing, albeit desperately sad account of a soldier who does not fit in to the 'hero ANZAC' narrative. This book gives a voice to those soldiers who weren't particularly patriotic, who were scared and unwell and who found it hard to find courage in the face of death. George, for a short time also encapsulated the desperation of families who never knew the fate of their men, who grieved

over their deaths and hoped against hope they would miraculously return.



Snips & Snaps: The Friths Nineteenth Century Portraitists, Miniaturists, Caricaturists and Photographic Artists

Noel Tozer, Edmund and Alexander, Dangar New South Wales, 2018, pp 286, ISBN 9780987535146

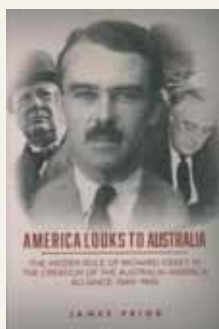
Tozer has laboured to produce a beautifully compiled book covering the somewhat unique profession of the Frith family. The Frith patriarch and his children were portraitists and silhouette artists through the Victorian and early Edwardian periods. One notable point of pride is the silhouette of a young Princess Victoria. This book was lovingly researched, with aid from the RHSV itself, providing glass plate negatives of some images taken by the photographic family. With eye catching historical images, well written text and extensive notes for the keen researcher, Tozer's work will capture the interest of photographers, art history buffs and family historians alike.



The La Trobe Journal No 101 March 2018

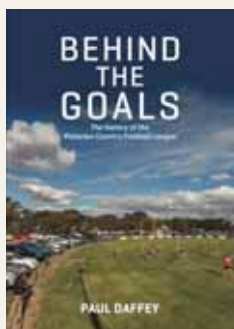
Editor John Arnold, State Library Victoria, Melbourne, 2018, pp 144

Edition 101 of the La Trobe Journal celebrates the rich past of the Victorian State Library and its employees. With 160 years of history to commemorate, the memoirs of previous prominent Librarians showcase changing times and memorable careers. The librarian memoirs include writings from Edmund La Touche Armstrong, Leigh Scott, Colin McCallum, Dianne Reilly and an obituary of long term employee Peg Anthony. With a handy biographical register of select library staff from 1856-1970, the reader is invited to delve in to the human past of Melbourne's great institution.



America Looks to Australia...1940-1942.

James Prior
\$39.95



Behind the Goals

Paul Daffey
\$25



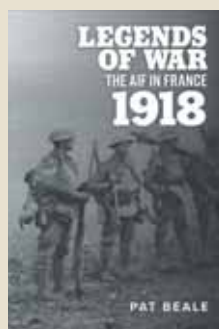
The Enigmatic Mr Deakin

Judith Brett
\$35



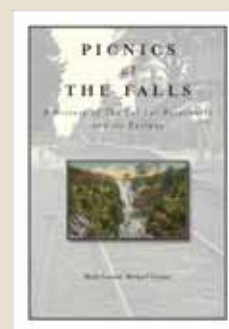
Guinness Down Under

Rod Smith
\$49.95



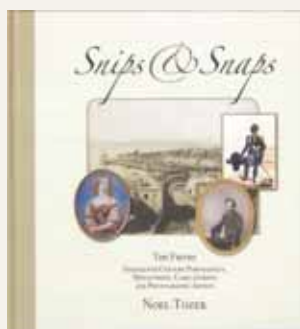
Legends of War: the AIF in France 1918

Pat Beale
\$34.95



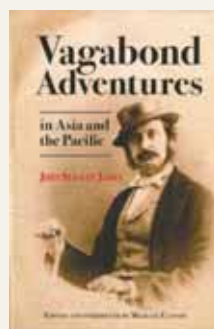
Picnics at The Falls: the history of the Lal Lal Racecourse

Cauchi & Guiney
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Snips & Snaps: the Friths

Noel Tozer
\$69.95



Vagabond Adventures in Asia and the Pacific

Michael Cannon
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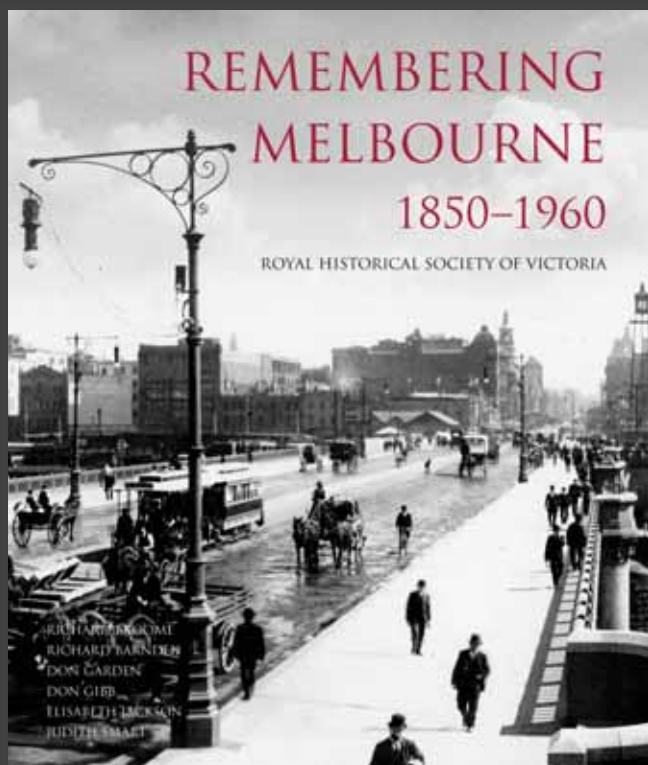
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REMEMBERING MELBOURNE

Returns - and for \$35!



On Melbourne Day, 30 August, the updated version of Remembering Melbourne 1850-1960 was launched at the RHSV and is now on sale. This stunning book, which sold out at the RHSV in just four weeks, is currently available to enhance your book shelves and delight those who receive it as a gift. The price is again a sensational \$35 (pick up from the RHSV), or plus postage and handling for mail orders <http://www.historyvictoria.org.au/>

All proceeds from sales will boost our growing Victorian Historian Journal Future Fund, aimed to secure our century-old journal, currently the second oldest, continuously published, history journal in Australia.

GUIDED WALKS IN HISTORIC FLAGSTAFF GARDENS

GUIDED WALKS EVERY MONDAY

Time	11am
Where	Meet here at the Royal Historical Society of Victoria, 239 A' Beckett St
Cost	\$10 Children under 16 free
Duration	75 minutes
Booking preferred email	At reception, or 9326 9288 office@historyvictoria.org.au

Flagstaff Gardens, which are just to your right, are Melbourne's oldest gardens. They take their name from a flagstaff erected in 1840 at the settlement's highest point, in order to communicate between the harbour and town. This became known as "Flagstaff Hill". Before this, the area was used as a cemetery and was known as Burial Hill. (There is a memorial in the gardens that marks the graves of the first European settlers.)

