

# HISTORY NEWS

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# President's Report

Volunteerism is vital to Australian society, which is replete with hundreds of thousands of organisations run largely or entirely by volunteers. The community history movement is at the forefront of important organisations run by volunteers. The protection of the stories of our past, which lays the basis for our identity and self-knowledge in the present, and the pathways for the future, depends on active local historical societies. In other words, the history movement plays its part for social wellbeing.

Volunteering, while altruistic, also has great benefits for the volunteers themselves. Those I talk to at the RHSV are passionate about the job(s) they are doing, whether it is sorting, cataloguing parts of the collection, compiling lists for a database, working with images, archives and other materials, helping to mount a collection, running tours and so forth. We have over a hundred volunteers giving their time and labour one day a week, sometimes more, on projects. Others serve on our many committees, which manage our collections, publications, events and exhibitions or make other contributions.

However, voluntary organisations are not always straight forward to run. I have some experience being on the RHSV Council since 2013 and being now president. But help is at hand, which I will outline below. So, if you are asked to step up and help at your local society as a committee member or an office bearer, please give it serious

consideration in the knowledge that you are not alone and will receive assistance from the RHSV.

Our RHSV website contains a plethora of advice. Since the 1980s the RHSV has issued three versions of our 'Guide to Managing Historical Societies'. It is now in digital form on our website at this page. <https://www.historyvictoria.org.au/societies/guide-to-managing-historical-societies/>

As you will see from a quick inspection it contains over seventy very helpful articles. For instance, under 'Managing the Organisation' it has nine articles, including policies and procedures, tips on grant applications, and notes for treasurers and ideas for income generation. This article is invaluable to overcome the hesitancy to become a treasurer, outlining what has to be done and how to do it. On income generation it suggests that 'one or two major events held annually can bring considerable revenue directly into an organisation.... Such special events include Book Sales, Annual or Themed Dinners, Competition Nights (history should not be trivialised), and Dutch Auctions. The list is endless... care must be taken in choice of event and placement on the locality's calendar'.

Under the category 'Involving People' the Guide has fourteen articles; under 'Developing a Significant Collection' it has eleven articles. Sample policies exist too, to avoid having to reinvent the wheel. There are six articles on sample policies

and five on procedures and guidelines. There are twenty-six sample forms available too, covering the collection, photographs, copyright, volunteers, OH & S, risk management and so forth. Please consult this rich resource and as Molly Meldrum always says: 'do yourself a favour!'

The Federation of Australian Historical Societies' website has its own rich veins to mine for assistance, at <https://www.history.org.au/>

**Richard Broome**



*Melbourne Day 2019, L to R  
Andrew Lemon, Tim Entwistle  
and Richard Broome*

## Melbourne Day at the RHSV

An attentive audience listened to Tim Entwistle, Director of the Royal Botanic Gardens (RBG), speak about the history of the Gardens, one of Melbourne's gems, on Friday 30 August. His theme was that the RBG, one of 45 botanic gardens in Victoria, was a symbiosis of Nature, Culture and Science. Tim outlined his philosophy of the botanic garden as an ongoing and changing project, a process to maintain relevance in the modern world. He outlined the RBG's strategic plan for its immediate future, to create a Nature-Science hub to compliment Melbourne's Arts and Sports hubs to the Garden's north-west and north-east. The RHSV's Drill Hall can become Melbourne's History Hub further to the north.

**Richard Broome**

## History News

History News is the bi-monthly newsletter of the RHSV  
ROYAL HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF VICTORIA INC.

**PRESIDENT** Richard Broome

**EXECUTIVE OFFICER** Rosemary Cameron

**ADMINISTRATION OFFICER** Pankaj Sirwani

**COLLECTIONS MANAGER & VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR** Jillian Hiscock

**EDITOR** Sharon Bettridge [sbettridge@outlook.com](mailto:sbettridge@outlook.com)

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Items for publication should be sent to the Editor

**EMAIL** [sbettridge@outlook.com](mailto:sbettridge@outlook.com)

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History House  
239 A'Beckett Street Melbourne 3000  
**Office & Library Hours:** Monday to Friday  
9am to 5pm  
**Phone:** 9326 9288  
**Website:** [www.historyvictoria.org.au](http://www.historyvictoria.org.au)  
**Email:** [office@historyvictoria.org.au](mailto:office@historyvictoria.org.au)  
ABN 36 520 675 471  
Registration No. A2529

### COVER

Cathedral Arcade, Melbourne, Australia  
14 February 2007, Mike Lehmann, Mike  
Switzerland  
[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/  
File:CathedralArcade\\_9943.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:CathedralArcade_9943.jpg)

# What's On

Attendance at any and all RHSV events should be booked through our website:  
**[www.historyvictoria.org.au/rhsv-events/](http://www.historyvictoria.org.au/rhsv-events/)**

All events are held at RHSV, 239 A'Beckett St, Melbourne VIC 3000, unless otherwise stated.

Queries: [office@historyvictoria.org.au](mailto:office@historyvictoria.org.au) or (03) 9326 9288



## WALKING TOUR: BATMANIA

**Tuesday 15 October and Thursday 17 October, 10-11am**

From, The former Age building, 655 Collins Street

RHSV researcher, Fiona Graham, has put together a new guided walking tour of the south-western corner of the CBD - today it is a slightly raffish, down-at-heel part of town but back in 1835 it was where everything was unfolding. Come and learn something new about your city.



## LECTURE: KEY EVENTS IN THE LIFE OF GEORGE HIGINBOTHAM

Speaker  
Geraldine Moore

**Tuesday 15 October  
15, 5.15pm for 6-7pm**  
\$10 / \$20

Officers' Mess Upstairs

George Higinbotham was a highly influential politician in colonial Victoria. One of his contemporaries described him as a man of 'dash and daring' who 'won from privilege and class ground that they have never since been able to recover.' Even today debate rages about his character and his legacy. Some see him as a visionary who fought for responsible government free of Colonial Office interference and obstruction by an undemocratically elected Legislative Council. Others see him as a flawed character... Join us at 5.15pm for drinks followed by lecture at 6pm.



## THE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF VICTORIA: AN INTRODUCTION

**Friday 18 October,  
1.00- 2.30pm**

Genealogical Society of Victoria, Level 6, 85 Queen Street

As part of History Week, the Genealogical Society of Victoria is holding an information session especially for RHSV members and friends. For anyone contemplating researching their family this event is key. It is also of great interest for those undertaking more general research as family research skills and resources can be used to create histories for any characters, not just your family.



## CELEBRATION OF THE 90TH BIRTHDAY OF PROFESSOR JOHN RIDDOCH POYNTER AO

**Friday 8 November,  
11.00am-1.00pm**

RHSV, Ground Floor, 239 A'Beckett Street, Melbourne

The Royal Historical Society of Victoria is hosting a sparkling morning tea to celebrate the 90th birthday of Professor John Riddoch Poynter. We invite the family, friends, colleagues and students of Professor Poynter.



## LECTURE. FARMING THE MALLEE: VISIONS AND REALITIES 1890-PRESENT

Speaker Professor Katie Holmes

**Tuesday 12 November, 5.15- 7.00pm**  
\$10 / \$20

RHSV Officers' Mess Upstairs, 239 A'Beckett St



## BOOK LAUNCH, MALLEE COUNTRY: LAND, PEOPLE, HISTORY

Speaker Tom Griffiths, Emeritus Professor of History, ANU

Performer Gavin Somers, a Butchulla, Gubbi Gubbi folk roots singer-songwriter

**Saturday 16 November,  
4.00pm for 4.30-6:00pm**

RHSV, Gallery Downstairs, 239 A'Beckett Street

The Royal Historical Society of Victoria and Monash University Publishing are delighted to invite you to the launch of *Mallee Country: Land, People, History* by Richard Broome, Charles Fahey, Andrea Gaynor and Katie Holmes. *Mallee Country* will be launched by Tom Griffiths. With a special performance by Gavin Somers who is based in Melbourne



## BOOK FAIR

**Sat 5 Oct 10am - 4pm**

Gallery Downstairs

## EXHIBITION, ISAAC SELBY: LECTURER, HISTORIAN, ASSASSIN

**Until 20 December, Monday-Friday, 9am-5pm**  
Drill Hall, 239 A'Beckett St, Melbourne

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# History Victoria Support Group

In the month of August HVSG conducted an online survey of societies in an endeavour to gain an overall concept of how societies operate. It has been pleasing to see so many societies take the time to return their surveys. We need to understand the current position of societies and appreciate their individual situations before well informed decisions can be made by the RHSV on the future direction of HVSG. The survey replies will be collated, analysed and circulated later in the year. The results will assist HVSG to plan the 2020 activities which hopefully will be of the utmost benefit to all societies. However, if you still haven't

sent your survey back, please do so, there is still time.

During the past two months, there have been follow-up visits by groups who attended the Castlemaine 'Storage of Archives' workshop earlier this year, which included sessions on digitising archives and photographs. Both David Langdon and Alan Reynolds, the presenters, have spent time with individual groups imparting their practical knowledge on these important topics.

I had an especially rewarding visit to Romsey Lancefield and Districts Historical Society in early September. It was a

pleasure to meet with enthusiastic and interested members of this society who wanted to widen their insight into how to catalogue a collection. Their collection had been partially catalogued in the past. We discussed many matters relating to the acquisition of items and artefacts, how and why to record the provenance of donations, and the descriptions of objects in preparation for cataloguing. Finally, we spoke about the issues relating to supervision, storage and access of collections. HVSG members are willing to assist any group with collection policies and procedures.

Representing HVSG, Sue Thompson, Lilydale Historical Society, and I undertook separate road trips to Mildura and Natimuk, located near Horsham on the 20, 21 and 22 September. We visited as many history and heritage groups as could be done in a very limited time frame. Due to the deadline for this edition of *History News*, a full report will be disseminated in the next edition.

**Alleyne Hockley**

Convenor HVSG (RHSV)



**TOP:** Noreen Yorke, President, Romsey Lancefield and Districts Historical Society with Alleyne Hockley HVSG Co-ordinator 6 September 2019

**BOTTOM:** Attendees at the Romsey and Lancefield Districts Historical Society Rooms. 6 September 2019



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# Threatened Local Heritage: From Boroondara Mansions to Inner Shopping Strips

Boroondara Council took decisive action on heritage. The Council applied to the Planning Minister for interim heritage protection on 466 properties in Canterbury and 725 properties in Camberwell so permanent Heritage Overlays could be considered. The Minister granted protection but weakened it with a Planning Scheme Amendment (C299) which overrides the Interim Heritage Overlay if the owner had already obtained a demolition permit. Several homes have been demolished as a result. (Carolyn Webb, "Irrevocably wrecked": Fury as another old house razed", *Age*, 1 September 2019).

Now it may be that Boroondara should have started on these Heritage Overlays sooner, but it seems perverse to undermine interim protection. Councils often fail to initiate heritage studies and apply for Heritage Overlays. Often, we assume that a loved building is protected; only when a developer moves in do we discover that it isn't. The point of interim protection is to save buildings while an investigation is carried out. The Minister argued that the Council's interim protection raised 'issues of natural justice and fairness for landowners' (Boroondara Planning Scheme Amendment C299 Explanatory Report). What about justice and fairness for future generations to enjoy our heritage?

Boroondara sought to protect its heritage. Yarra Council has passed two planning amendments which would gut the historic fabric of its shopping strips. We thought these were covered by Heritage Overlays, but planning amendment C231 would prescribe development of the Queens Parade strip in North Fitzroy. C231 has now been subject to a Planning Panel Review and we are awaiting the result with trepidation. In its current form, C231 prescribes saving the front eight metres of shops and demolishing everything behind that for four-storey development (originally it would save only six metres of heritage buildings and prescribe six-storey development, but community pressure, in which the RHSV was active, led to some improvement). Either way, this would mean that the shops would no longer have space for toilets or kitchens and that they would lose rear access for delivery, thus becoming kiosques only.

Planning amendment C191 would have similar effects on Swan Street, Richmond, although in this case the new development could be five storeys and the setback of the new development would be only six metres (ten metres on a limited section of the south side of Swan Street to protect views of the Dimmeys Ball Tower). Heritage Committee Member Ian Wight made a detailed submission on behalf of the RHSV that all the main roof of each shop be preserved. Heritage Committee Member Associate Professor Judith Smart presented a strong case to Council to defer consideration of C191 until the Planning Panel published its findings on C231. Nevertheless, on 10 September 2019, Yarra Council voted in favour of C231. One councillor, Brigid O'Brien, Socialist, moved deferral as we had requested and recommended councillors attend a site inspection, but not one councillor seconded her motion.

Planning Amendments (or Design and Development Orders or DDOs) are furthering development at the expense of heritage. Clay Lucas reported (*Age*, 2019, 7 September) that the Corkman developers got their fine cut to \$1 million on appeal. They bought the hotel for \$4.7 million in 2015. The empty site is now worth \$8–10 million. The judge pointed out that they 'made a commercial calculation'. The Corkman is another instance where heritage protection was weakened by planning. I wrote in the March 2019 issue of *History News*:

*The secret of the Corkman Hotel—illegally demolished in 2016—is that it was covered not only by a Heritage Overlay but also by a DDO. So while we all thought that it was protected, in fact it was earmarked for intense development. This classic gold-rush era Victorian pub, dating from 1857, had a Heritage Overlay but that wouldn't have protected it.*

The DDO prescribed demolishing much of the hotel to build a forty metre (twelve storey) tower, twelve storeys, set back six metres, so only the facade and six metres of the hotel would have survived even if the developers had acted lawfully.

Richard Wynne has been the best Planning Minister this century, but still the Ministry pushes for development at the cost of heritage and the Minister himself intervened to weaken Boroondara Council's heritage protection efforts. There is room for improvement. The Ministry should work to ensure that Heritage Overlays are integrated into the planning scheme so that heritage is protected. The RHSV has made representations through the Heritage Council and we are hopeful of being heard. As it stands, DDOs can and do prescribe development at the cost of historic buildings covered by Heritage Overlays.

**Charles Sowerwine,**

Chair, RHSV Heritage Committee



**368 Auburn Road, Hawthorn, being demolished under Planning Amendment C299 (photo courtesy Liz Burton, Camberwell Historical Society)**

# Vale Bishop James Grant

James Grant passed away in early July 2019 aged 87. He was born in Red Cliffs near Mildura in 1931 and after an education at Geelong High School and the University of Melbourne, entered the ministry and rose to become an Assistant Anglican Bishop of Melbourne and Dean of St Pauls (1985-1999), during which time he restored the Cathedral's organ and enriched its musical life.

Besides a distinguished sixty-year career in rural dioceses and the Melbourne diocese, James Grant was a member of the RHSV since 1973. He was a practising historian compiling a book of documents, entitled the *Melbourne Scene, 1803-1956* with noted Victorian historian Professor Geoffrey Serle. He wrote four other books including a history of Trinity College, a history of St Paul's Cathedral and a history

of the Anglican Church in Victoria. He was a progressive and humane man who loved history, Trinity College and his Church.

While Chaplain of Trinity College in 1974 Bishop Grant allowed students to dunk him in an old metal bath as a fund-raising guessing competition, to see how many teacups of water he would displace. He, with a good splash, displaced 434 cups and the winning guesser, Michael Adams, earned two tickets to the Trinity Ball. James Grant took it with great grace and humour - I know, as Russell Howard and I were the chief dunkers. The members and staff of the RHSV pass their condolences for a life well-lived to Bishop Grant's wife, Ms Rowena Armstrong AO, QC.

**Richard Broome**  
President RHSV



*Richard Broome presents Mr Zhang Xuanbo with a copy of **Remembering Melbourne** during a visit on 4 September by a team of twenty-two delegates from various audit offices across China. Photograph courtesy John Fitzgerald.*

Mr Zhang is Director-General, Public Health and Sports Audit Office, National Audit Office of the People's Republic of China. The visitors toured the RHSV, then heard of its structure and operations from Rosemary Cameron; of its collections from Elisabeth Jackson; and about Indigenous history from Richard Broome. The talks were ably assisted by several interpreters and Emeritus Professor John Fitzgerald, a member of the RHSV Foundation Committee.



*Dunking Bishop James Grant, 1974  
Trinity College,  
Richard Broome on the left and Russell Howard on the right*



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# If trees talked: An old pear tree bears witness



Pioneer gathering at 'The Pines, 1914, pear orchard in the background

PIONEERS GATHERING MOYARRA 1914

Every now and then you will see them: old fruit trees in bare paddocks, seemingly in the middle of nowhere. Deep in the Strzelecki Ranges of South Gippsland, fruit trees, as well as pines, oaks and elms mark the location of old pioneer homesteads. While many buildings have succumbed to the rigours of a moist, cold and windy climate, hardy specimens of apple, pear, cherry plum, walnut, hawthorn and feijoa have survived for well over a century.

In the early days of selection, under the Land Acts of 1869 and 1884, an orchard was often established at the same time as the obligatory 'improvements' of scrub clearing, fencing and sowing of 'English' grasses for dairy cows. Men, after taking up land in the densely forested areas around Jumbunna, Moyarra and Kongwak, often lived in tents on a diet of damper. They were keen to bring their wives and children to a place that felt a little more like home. So, while they built cabins of logs with a roof of shingles and an outside fireplace, they also dug patches for vegetables, flowers and fruit trees.

Mrs. R.J. Fuller, recorded her pioneering experiences in *The Land of the Lyrebird*, an iconic account of settlement in South Gippsland in the early 1880s. She had 'everything to learn', but her husband the year before she arrived, had brought down some fruit trees whose 'experience was varied on the journey. They started by coach from the Albion Hotel in Bourke Street, Melbourne, to Grantville, then by bullock team and horse drays to Mr. A.R. Smith's [near the Bass River] finishing by pack-horse. Two years later after our arrival they were removed to another site [near Bena], and very pleasant and useful

*we found the fruit when they came into bearing'.*

Nearby, at the author's home, 'The Pines' at Moyarra, there are two remnant pear trees of that pioneering era. While the current weatherboard homestead was built by William Rainbow in 1897, the trees may have been established a decade before by John Gannon, the original selector of Crown Allotment No. 50 in the Parish of Jumbunna. It was at Moyarra where many of the pioneers gathered in 1913 and 1914 to organise the collection of their stories for *The Land of the Lyrebird*. Contemporary photos of these gatherings depict mature pear trees in the background.

Domestic details feature little in the grander epic of the struggle against the Great Forest, but the significance of fruit trees and their 'useful' role can be found in other sources. A report from the *Great Southern Advocate* on the local Kongwak Agricultural Show in 1906 announced:

*Bottling pears, first prize, W. Rainbow.*

The hard brown pears our larger tree still produces may have been those prizewinners. They are great keepers and best eaten cooked. But the tree produces a large crop every year regardless of seasonal variations in heat and moisture.

A postcard dated February 1919 and sent from Le Havre in France suggests that the pear tree, in its location next to the original front gate provided a handy meeting place for catching up on local news.

The card was sent to Miss Mabel Rainbow, then aged 19, from Bill McLean whose farm was further down the hill on the Foster Creek. Bill had enlisted in 1915, and served as a driver of artillery horses

in the Second Division, first AIF. On one side was an informal photograph of seven Australian soldiers of the Great War, all Bill's mates. 'Dear Mabel', Bill wrote, in his neat generous hand,

*'It won't be very long now before I will be back at my old game again,*

*"Mail man". Hope the old pear tree is still there to act as a seat.'*

Ten thousand miles away from his Moyarra home and after three and a half years of indescribable horror, his thoughts had flown back to the 'old' pear tree at 'The Pines' where he had come to deliver and collect the mail.

*'Hoping you are all in the best of health. I am in tip top shape myself. With heaps of love to you, I remain your aff[ectionate] friend, Bill.'*

The old pear tree was still there when Bill returned in August 1919. The tree remains today providing 'pleasant and useful' fruit with an outstretched branch still 'acting' as a seat. A silent yet telling witness to decades of human settlement and society.

**Jillian Durance, Moyarra**



The old pear tree today





*Cathedral Arcade, 2017 Photo David Redfern <https://www.flickr.com/photos/117830658@N03/>*

## Windows on History: Cathedral Arcade

It is easy to walk straight past Melbourne's Cathedral Arcade.

Tucked into the centre of the Nicholas Building on the corner of Swanston Street and Flinders Lane, it is only when one glances sideways that the quiet elegance of the promenade is revealed, and the barrel vaulting of the glass ceiling demands a second look, inviting the visitor to pass under the gilded glass 'Cathedral Arcade' lettering to explore its interior spaces.

Cathedral Arcade marks the two main entrances to the Nicholas Building, designed by Collins Street architect, Harry A. Norris in the 1920s for owners, Nicholas Pty Ltd. It replaced the not-so-old five-storey Monaghan's Building at a cost (according to press reports) of £200,000. The grand opening on 12 March 1926 received wide coverage in Melbourne papers, which labelled

it a 'Modern Skyscraper' at 132 feet (maximum height allowable under the city's regulations) and 'another milestone... in the progress of Melbourne towards a city of modern shopping and office buildings'. With street facades tiled with terracotta faience to be lit at night, elevators that travelled at 600 feet per minute, and dados lined with specially produced silver lustre Delft tiling all added glamour to the concrete-encased steel and bluestone structure and proclaimed its Chicago-style modernity.

Arcade shopping was once again in vogue. After years of depression, recovery and war, the 1920s heralded a mild economic upturn that was marked by new building construction in the city. The new arcades may not have aspired to the grandeur of the 1880s, when promenading through The Block or Royal Arcade was the height of fashion, but they provided the up-to-date city

shopping experience from Buckley & Nunn or King's Walk in Bourke Street to suburban arcades, such as Treadways in Collingwood or the Colosseum at Prahran.

Cathedral Arcade was designed as the central spine of the shopping areas. It runs in an L shape linking the two street frontages with shops fronted by plate-glass windows and showcases along its full length. Melbourne's *Herald* (12 March 1926 p 16) reported:

*'...The ground floor arcade has a suspended ceiling glazed with Luxfer glass, the predominating colours being a white foreground, with blue and amber decorations. This ceiling can be indirectly lighted. About 34,500 candlepower lamps are being installed.'*

'Luxfer' glazing was a relatively new process, whereby the flexible lead came that separated the pieces of glass in







## The Wizard Tree: Healesville

Does anyone know about the so-called Wizard Tree? Apparently until five or six years ago it stood majestically in Donnelly's Weir Park. Now only its stump and the fallen trunk, enveloped by rough scrub, remain. However, before it was felled photographs recorded its unusual feature: a poem written on one side of the trunk and a representation of 'The Wizard' on another. The poem reads as follows:

*If you're alone at Donnelly's Weir  
be sure to notice the Wood Wizard here  
– so be gone by night  
for the gate shuts tight  
and the wizard of wood,  
with his hungry owls,  
will cut your throat  
and remove your bowels.  
And by the morn, a new tree grows  
– and only he the Wizard knows.  
There's DNA in new wood here,  
this haunted place this Donnelly's Weir.  
Not a fantasy it seems  
for the locals here have heard the  
screams  
and the trees they groan from the  
hunger pains  
as they sway and lust for choice remains.  
Somebody having fun, it seems, but  
it constitutes quite an effort to do such  
writing on the  
trunk of a tree.*

We are not aware of who the writer was or when it was done. For the historical record, we would like to know more about it.

**Elizabeth Bacon,**

Secretary Healesville and District  
Historical Society,

[hhsociety@optusnet.com.au](mailto:hhsociety@optusnet.com.au)

leadlights were replaced with a rigid steel and/or plated zinc framework. The Luxfer structure was less flexible than leadlight and, although it appeared delicate, its fire rating was much higher than its leadlight equivalent. To designers and builders of public and commercial premises increasingly concerned about fire safety risks, it was a logical choice for theatres, banks - even the Public Library, where it can be seen today.

The L-junction of the Luxfer ceiling was designed as a shallow pendentive dome, reiterating the pared-back colouring with repetition of spider-web and urn motifs in the two barrel-vaulted arms, the arches above shop entrances and decorative hampers across the wide plate glass shopfronts on the ground and first floors. The Melbourne firm, Brooks, Robinson & Co, which manufactured Luxfer glazing under licence from its English patent holders, also made all shopfronts, fittings, basement glass bricks and leadlights for the Nicholas Building, most of which remains in place today. It is worthwhile taking a tour through the building to discover these glass gems, and even searching for the skylights to basements outside, set into the Flinders Lane pavement. The elegant results suited the austerity of the Inter-War 1920s, but it also provides a perfect backdrop to the colourful businesses and characters that have enlivened the building ever since.

Today, as the Building Association's website proclaims, the 'vertical arts precinct' 'holds an eclectic mix of small businesses and attractions including art galleries, unique boutiques & stores, fashion designers, jewellers, artist & design studios, musicians & recording studios, architects, food development, small start-ups, video games & technology innovators'.

The vibrant activity is not repeated outside as it is now the only building along this Swanston Street block except Young & Jackson's pub on the Flinders Street corner. Its southern wall now bare, is exposed to the tunnelling, noise and vibrations of the new underground rail link, and one fears for its future viability as a rich venue for creative industry. Maybe, when the dust settles and this area of the streetscape reinvents itself, it is not too fanciful to imagine the second-floor restaurant with its long balcony overlooking Swanston Street could be reinstated. Although 'glimpses of the river, trees, Alexandra Gardens and Government House' may be less visible, the restaurant and balcony could still remind us of the building's past. This wish may not be granted, but there is always the tiny hole-in-the wall coffee shop right in the arcade's heart, a place to enjoy a good coffee while gazing up the curve of its elegant decorative ceiling.

**Bronwyn Hughes**

**PREVIOUS PAGE:**  
*Stained Glass  
Department at  
Brooks Robinson  
& Co, Melbourne,  
Victoria - circa 1910.*

*Image Artist's  
impression of  
Cathedral Arcade  
before it opened  
Herald, 19 August  
1925, p.4*

**RIGHT: Detail of  
arched entrances  
and hampers, first  
floor, Cathedral  
Arcade, 2019**





*Fish Market c. 1890 Between 1865 and 1892, the Melbourne Fish Market occupied the Flinders and Swanston streets south-west corner. CBD News <https://cbdnews.com.au/fish-market-c-1890/>*

## Old Melbourne Not Old Melburnians!

My introduction to the discipline of Australian History was inauspicious. In years 9 and 10 I found the compulsory subject of History to be stupefying and mind-numbingly boring. I could not become animated learning endless dates and facts relating to the Seven Years' War and other European events.

But in 1954, in year 10 at Melbourne Grammar, I became a committee member of the Museum of School Records, later to be renamed the School Archives, led by a master: Mr Charles Howlett and later Mr Gordon Sargood. This very small band of students spent our lunchtimes cataloguing the museum items - which ranged from team, house and school photographs, old school uniforms, including boaters and other paraphernalia, old rowing oars, and a wonderful school cricket scorecard printed on silk, commemorating a world

record score held by a school boy. These extra-curricular activities nurtured in me a love of history.

One day in mid-1955, the Museum of School Records received an offer of old photographs from Sears' Studios, who had been the official photographers for a number of schools for many years, and who were now disposing of their vast collection of photographs; and for a nominal amount they were offering to Melbourne Grammar old photographs relevant to the school and its old boys' association, The Old Melburnians. Many boxes of photographs duly arrived containing large-scale negatives, prints, glass plate diapositives and glass plate negatives. Most boxes were labelled 'Melbourne Grammar'; however, the other boxes were not labelled 'Old Melburnians' but were labelled 'Old Melbourne'! Too

late! The school had paid for them, so they were ours!

We students quickly sorted out the treasure trove of Old Melbourne glass diapositives and glass plate negatives. I had a friend who was very active in the Australian Railway Historical Society (ARHS), so the master-in-charge agreed with my suggestion to pass the photographs of trains and railway viaducts and stations to the ARHS; the rest of the photographs were forwarded to the State Library of Victoria; perhaps some were sent to the City of Melbourne. Since then, these photographs pop up from time to time in books illustrating various aspects of life in Melbourne in the 1860s, 1870s and 1880s.

**Greg Eccleston**



*Flinders Street Station, Elizabeth Street entrance, 1889, Sears' Studios, State Library Victoria*



*Flinders Street Station, Elizabeth Street entrance, 1889 photograph : gelatin silver. State Library Victoria*



# Silent lives: My inspiration



I have been writing about the history of Warrnambool and district for over 20 years now. I've always wanted to write about women and their achievements. I noted the struggle of ordinary women in the 19th century to have equal opportunities and recognition for their labours, a campaign that was still being waged strongly in my own formative years. As a teacher I didn't get the same pay as a male teacher until the 1960s. In Warrnambool, every time I walked past our magnificent Pioneer Honour Board with its portraits of 204 male pioneers my resolve to record some local women's lives was strengthened.

But, the writing of *Silent Lives* presented a particular challenge. The primary source material on women in our Local History Society collection was very sparse and the newspaper reports and advertisements of the day mainly featured Councillors, businessmen and large property owners – all male. Therefore, the collection of the material took several years as I combed the old newspapers for the smallest references to women. Many of these brought up more questions than answers – which Miss Duncan had written a novel and where was it? Had Mrs Johnson actually taken photographs at her husband's 1860s studio or did she just manage the office? Being the Historical Society's Research Officer for twelve years was a great help. Every enquirer

was asked: 'What do you have on the women in your family tree?' This produced many gems, some unexpected – copies of original artworks, school book prizes and badges, bundles of letters, photographs of women at work and even items of nineteenth century women's clothing and accessories.

Soon I was absorbed in the daily lives of these people and marvelled at their resilience and courage. I would have liked to have known them all. I would have enjoyed the 'brilliant success' of Sarah Welchman singing in her Orderly Room concert in 1873 and I would have examined with interest the fine sewing of Martha Wright's prizewinning 'best-made washing dress for a girl of twelve' that was exhibited at the 1907 Women's Work Exhibition in Melbourne. I would have stood up and cheered in the local court room when the lawyer rebuked William Rutledge for declaring he didn't know anyone called Miss Brennan but he had a maid called Bridget; as said the lawyer, she had as much right as anyone else to be called 'Miss'. I would have told Florinda Battarbee that her brother Rex may be the Battarbee artist remembered today but I think that her art work was just as good, if not better than his.

I pored over the five hundred books in the library of the sub-editor of the *Warrnambool Echo*, Marie Hassett

(c.1868-1901). I wanted to sample the 1860s 'sumptuous repasts' prepared by the licensee's wife, Catherine Dooley at the Telegraph Hotel, which once stood in the block next to where I live today. I would have liked to have bought for £1 one of Eliza Hornsby's curtains, three and a half yards in length, hand-knitted in the feather and fan pattern and made under the candlelight in the little wooden cottage in Nullawarre. I can picture the six-year-old Bessie Worland receiving her prize at Hohenlohe College 'for always doing her best' as a solemn, chubby little girl with wide eyes and brown plaits. Would I have tried to help poor Sophia Charlesworth before she resorted to the final solution to her alcoholism by throwing herself off the Hopkins River bridge?

*Silent Lives* records the names of over four hundred local women. These were real people. They were farmers and factory workers, barmaids and breadwinners, nuns and novelists, wives and widows, scholars and Sunday School teachers, seamstresses and straw-hat makers, hostesses and harlots. But they were all wonderful and deserve to be remembered today.

**Elizabeth O'Callaghan, February 2019.**

Author of *Silent Lives: women of Warrnambool and District, 1840-1910*



*Political battle: Victorian parliamentarians visited Warrnambool in 1898 to play a game of cricket against the Allansford Forget-me-nots. Picture: Warrnambool and District Historical Society*

# My Stapylton Book

As a young land surveyor, my early interests were in the often-unsung achievements of early surveyors. This included Surveyor General Major Mitchell, who led an exploratory expedition from Sydney through western New South Wales and, what is now, western and central Victoria in 1836. Granville Stapylton was his assistant. My book is based on Stapylton's true journals of 1836 which, I realised, would help me fill in a few gaps in Mitchell's record of the expedition.

Not only that, Stapylton's journal clarified certain contentious issues regarding times, dates and locations of certain discoveries. For instance, writers have criticised Mitchell for implying that the tree-climbing rat-built stick nests. But, Stapylton's disclosure that a grey rabbit rat was caught on 11 July between today's Rostron and Kanya vindicated Mitchell's assertion on the 18 September, whilst compiling an inventory of things collected, that they had indeed collected a rat which climbs trees like the 'opossum'. The confusion arose through the absence of a comma in Mitchell's account!

Occasionally Mitchell's spatial acuity was criticised by non-surveyors, usually unfairly. Some years ago, a historian condemned Mitchell's location of where he crossed the Loddon and Avoca Rivers, claiming that he was many miles out. In *Granville Stapylton: Australia Felix 1836, second in command to Major Mitchell* I explain why this person was confused. Mitchell's Loddon River, that is today's Avoca River, at Kooreh happens to be in alignment with the modern Loddon River at Newstead, as a result of the dog-leg in the modern Loddon at Eddington.

The scientist and tektite authority George Baker made a wild estimate of the location of the discovery, by Aboriginal members of Mitchell's party, of the world's first tektite scientifically described by Charles Darwin. Baker put it a little to the east of Prungle Lakes in NSW, whereas Stapylton's journal confirmed that it was at Lake Boga in Victoria, a huge distance away. Mitchell never ventured anywhere near Prungle Lakes.

The geographer Juliet Bird, in referring to the Wimmera River which peters out in Lake Hindmarsh, a hundred miles short of the Murray River, claimed that Mitchell was responsible for misleading the early overlanders; such as Edward Eyre into thinking that the Wimmera River reached the Murray River, thereby almost causing Eyre's death in 1838. Once again, this unfair denunciation of Mitchell is refuted in my thesis (1991) and in my recent book.

Even locals can become confused. Not so long ago the locals believed that the 'Fall of Cobaw' depicted by Mitchell are today's Barfold Gorge Falls, noting that 'regular rock-falls and water erosion have markedly altered the basalt formations over the past 170 years' (VHJ 78,1). This is totally incorrect. Mitchell's 'Fall of Cobaw' are today's Coliban Falls, on the Coliban River, and all of its individual large rocks are still easily identified (VHJ 79,1). Some distance away are the Barfold Gorge Falls, on another river, the Campaspe River.

I found some comments in Stapylton's journal to be challenging: one was his reference to 'Na of Oxley', which I could not find in Oxley's journals but eventually concluded was a reference to a species of cudweed originally of the genus *Gnaphalium*.

Another curious entry was to 'Oliver'. Obviously, it seemed to be a celestial body. Eventually I found a reference to Oliver in *The Routledge Dictionary of Historical Slang*: it is 'secret speech of the underworld' for the moon! Perhaps Stapylton, educated at Westminster School and Oxford University, had learnt it from one of the convicts in the expedition's party?

In preparing my book on Stapylton, I requested high-resolution images of relevant plants and indigenous animals, landscape paintings, and portraits of historical figures from the appropriate copyright holders. In most cases the copyright holders were very obliging, agreeing to my requests on payment of a reasonable fee. In a few cases a copy of my published book was also requested.



*Vignette of a young man, probably Granville Stapylton, and probably drawn by Major Thomas Mitchell using his camera lucida – appears on the inside front cover of Stapylton's field book no. 6.*

*Courtesy of Mr Henry P. Chetwynd-Stapylton, Chichester, UK.*

In the case of the portrait of Sir Sidney Smith, held by the Royal Collection Trust, York House, St. James's Palace, I was asked to pay £89.50 for the image and I was advised that 'at least two copies of the publication must be provided free of charge to RCT upon publication'. I did as instructed: after the book was published, I duly sent two copies of the book, separately, to the Royal Collection Trust. Imagine my surprise when the second book was returned, unopened. On enquiring why, I was told that security at the front gate had deemed the parcel suspicious, and had decided to return it to Australia! Fortunately, the parcel was not explosive, and no harm was done to the plane on the parcel's return trip, although the book is now somewhat bumped and unable to be sold. I only hope that the Queen gets a chance to read the first copy that was sent.

**Greg Eccleston**, author of *Granville Stapylton: Australia Felix 1836, second in command to Major Mitchell*. (2018) Evandale publishing, Malvern



# Books Received

By John Schauble

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

Please note: these books listed are not necessarily offered to the bookshop by authors, please check the shop catalogue.



**Women to the Front.** Heather Sheard and Ruth Lee, Ebury Press, North Sydney 2019, pp. vii-305, ISBN 9780143794707.

At least twenty-six Australian female doctors served in WW1, most of them in front line locations across Europe and the Middle East. Considering there were only one hundred and twenty-nine women registered as medical practitioners in Australia at the outbreak of the war, this is an extraordinary statistic. But having overcome the many routine barriers put in their way to qualify in and practice medicine at that time, perhaps it is not. Entrenched discrimination within the military against female practitioners continued even as the demand for their services became more acute as the war dragged on. It also accounts for why there are so few records of their service. Heather Sheard and Ruth Lee have both written PhDs around individual doctors from this cohort and have come together to write about the group as a whole. This is the story of the Great War from a unique perspective, told through the eyes of women who were exposed to the worst of its ravages, often in the most grueling of conditions and mostly without recognition. The individual biographical notes of each doctor add to a fascinating story.



**The Secret Art of Poisoning.** Samantha Battams, Self-published, Adelaide 2019, pp. 1-221, ISBN 978064372813.

This is the second account of the notorious Richmond poisoner Martha Needle to appear in recent months, testimony if nothing else to the fascination of the “true crime” genre, both contemporary and historical. One initial premise of this account is to draw a link between Martha Needle and Alexander Lee, who murdered his wife and three of his children by poisoning in the Clare Valley more than a quarter of a century after Needle was hanged for similar crimes in Victoria. Lee was Martha Needle’s nephew. Both died at the age of 31. Aside from the prospect that both suffered mental illness, there the connections end. The balance of the work traverses similar territory to other accounts of Marthas Needle’s infamous story, drawing on a range of contemporary newspaper accounts and archival material.



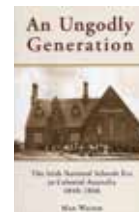
**Outcasts, Mists & Shadows: a short history of institutional care around Yarra Bend, Melbourne.** Colin Briton, self-published, Melbourne 2018, pp. i-118, ISBN 9780648022312.

This is a revised edition of what is on one level a guidebook, but on another an intriguing short history of the institutional edge of town. Subtitled ‘a short history of institutional care around Yarra Bend, Melbourne’ there is a brief but rich collection of stories around the assortment of medical, psychiatric and penal facilities that were dotted around this most beautiful part of the Yarra waterway. Certain of the facilities present a challenging past and this is very much part of the story here. There are other surprises on this “walk around the bend”, such as the brief account of the Deep Rock Swimming and Life Saving Club 1906-1940s. While some of the institutions mentioned here have their own more detailed written histories, this is a good primer.



**The Days That Are No More.** John Henwood, self-published, 2018, pp.vii-289, ISBN 97806469933423.

This finely illustrated pastoral saga tells the story of the Sutherland family of Thologolong Station in the Victorian Upper Murray district. The property was alienated in the 1830s, after which it passed through a number of owners and lessees before being purchased by cousins Peter and Jack Sutherland and a brash American named Joshua Cushing in 1885. The latter went broke and then died within a decade, so it was the Sutherland family who would build up a rural dynasty, the well-managed and extensive property and its notable place as an Angus cattle stud. In time, the herd was strengthened through cross breeding with Shorthorns and the Murray Grey breed was born. This sweeping story spans rural life in colonial Australia, local and agricultural politics, a new nation and the family’s tragic involvement in the Great War. In the 1930s the property would largely disappear when it was acquired for the giant Hume Dam project, with portions not required sold back to the family. John Henwood – who many will recall from his long career as an ABC rural reporter – is a Sutherland descendant and this book has been both a lifelong interest and a labour of love.



**An Ungodly Generation: The Irish National Schools Era in Colonial Australia 1848-1866.** Max Waugh, Melbourne Books, Melbourne 2019, pp.1-262, ISBN 9781925556452.

Before compulsory state education was introduced in Victoria in 1872, there was a mixture of secular national schools, based on the Irish system established in 1831, and denominational and other private schools. The national schools were introduced into the colony of New South Wales in 1848, spreading to the district of Port Phillip. While in Ireland denominational rifts would eventually scuttle the system, the antipodean model more closely followed the ideals of its founders and laid solid foundations for a secular system of state education in the eastern colonies. The role of Irish-born NSW Governor Sir Richard Bourke in promoting the national system was pivotal, although it was left to his successors Sir George Gipps to continue the quest and Sir Charles Fitzroy to implement it. In Victoria, national schools struggled for want of funding and faced denominational opposition before morphing into common schools in 1862. Even so, Waugh argues they paved the way for the “free, secular and compulsory” system introduced a decade later.

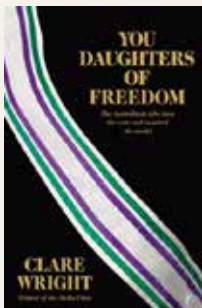


**Maldon: A New History 1853-1928.** Brian Rhule, Exploring History Australia, Bendigo 2019, pp. i-382, ISBN 9780646802343.

Maldon is perhaps best known as Australia’s “first notable town”, based on its intact 19th century streetscapes and structures. It owes its origins and early prosperity to gold. The Tarrangower field would in time prove rich in reef deposits and sustain a mining industry from the early 1850s until well into the 20th century. The marriage of labour and capital in pursuit of deep lead mining meant that much of the considerable wealth generated left town as dividends to investors in Bendigo and Melbourne. (Not so the effluvium and noxious fumes that accompanied life in a 19th century mining town yet to establish its heritage credentials.) This study is a work of considerable scholarship, which had its genesis in the Masters thesis of lawyer turned historian Brian Rhule. It delves deeply into the lives and structures of a rural-industrial community through cycles of boom and bust. It will be of interest not just to those with links to Maldon but others focused on the social, political and economic impacts of gold mining in Victoria.

# History Victoria Bookshop

New Books in store for October 2019



You Daughters of Freedom: the Australians who won the vote and inspired the world.

By Clare Wright

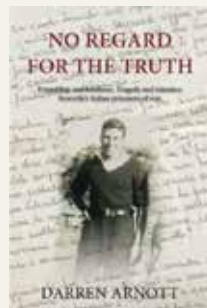
\$34.95



From Secret Ballot to Democracy Sausage: how Australia got compulsory voting.

By Judith Brett

\$29.99



No Regard for the Truth: friendship and kindness, tragedy and injustice. Rowville's Italian prisoners of war.

By Darren Arnott

\$30



Best We Forget: the war for White Australia, 1914–18.

By Peter Cochrane

\$32.99

See our online catalogue at [www.historyvictoria.org.au/bookshop/](http://www.historyvictoria.org.au/bookshop/) or visit the Bookshop at the RHSV.

## Around the Societies

Prepared by volunteer Glenda Beckley on behalf of the History Victoria Support Group.

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.

### FOR THE DECEMBER 2019 ISSUE

please send details to [office@historyvictoria.org.au](mailto:office@historyvictoria.org.au) by 8th November 2019.

**AMERICAN EX-SERVICEMEN:** A social organisation of American veterans living in Victoria. We meet monthly (except November, December and January) on the first Sunday at Caulfield RSL, 4 St Georges Road, Elsternwick. We have lunch at noon, followed by a meeting around 1pm. We commemorate both Australian and American holidays and events. More information can be found at

<http://www.bartosh.com/amexsvc/index.php>

**AUSTRALIAN LEBANESE:** The ALHSV has been active this year in planning another community seminar. We will be hearing from three Lebanese food entrepreneurs about the growth of, interest in, and access to Lebanese food and flavours across restaurants, bistros and cafes in Victoria: Joseph Abboud (Rumi, The Moor's Head, Bar Saracen), Linda Jones (Alimentari), and George Choueri (Soufra Foods). We look forward to seeing you at this event on Sunday 6 October at 2pm for 2.30-4.30 pm at The Rooftop Room at the Northcote Town Hall. Light Lebanese

refreshments provided.

**BALWYN:** On Thursday 10 October at 8pm, Dr Ros Otzen will speak about Hester Hornbrook, one of the founders of the Melbourne City Mission, which was set up in 1854 to assist the poor and those in need. She managed the Mission from 1856 to 1862. She also founded nine Ragged Schools for the children of the poor in Melbourne between 1859 and her death in 1862. On Thursday 14 November at 8pm Pete Smith OAM presents, 'From vaudeville to radio, TV and beyond'. Pete Smith has had a long and illustrious career on radio and television. He is well known for his work as announcer, compere, quiz program host and comedian. Meetings are held at the Balwyn Evergreen Centre, 45 Talbot Avenue, Balwyn.

Email: [balwynhistory@gmail.com](mailto:balwynhistory@gmail.com)

website: [www.vicnet.net.au/~balwynhs](http://www.vicnet.net.au/~balwynhs)

**BRIGHTON CEMETORIANS:** 'Boyd Family of Artist Walk', October 20 at 2pm. Meet at

the Hawthorn Road Gate, near the corner of Sheffield St. This is a walk of a difference with a Boyd family member who will talk about the amazing Boyd Dynasty and their connection to other artists who are also buried at the Brighton Cemetery. With this walk being part of the Seniors month the cost will be at a very special price of \$5 person. Bookings [www.trybooking.com/BDZJAs](http://www.trybooking.com/BDZJAs)

**BUNGAREE:** Monday 21 October at 7.30 pm – Guest speaker Graeme Reynolds on doing family research. Monday 18 November at 6.30pm will be our annual 'This Is Your Life and Christmas tea'.

Australia Day will be on us before we know it, so if anyone would like to place a plaque on our heritage wall please get in touch at [spiefot@bigpond.com](mailto:spiefot@bigpond.com), so that details may be sent to the monumental mason before the end of November.

**CINEMA AND THEATRE:** 'Back to the Flicks', Saturday 19 October at 2pm. A nostalgic look at the history of cinema and the growth



of 'picture palaces' of the yesteryear in the leafy eastern suburbs of Melbourne, many having disappeared with the impact of television. Presented by Tony Tibballs. Prahran Mechanics Institute, Victorian History Library, 39 St Edmonds Rd, Prahran. Free event, but bookings are essential. [www.pmi.net.au/events](http://www.pmi.net.au/events) phone: 9510 3393

**CORNISH ASSOCIATION:** 'Separation, Gold and Prosperity: Victoria after the Gold Rush' presented by Dr Fay Woodhouse on Saturday 19 October. 'Cornish Language Group', Saturday 16 November. We meet at the Oakleigh Baptist Church Hall, at the corner of Warrigal Road and Moorookyle Ave, Oakleigh. More information is available on our CAV website: <http://www.cornishvic.org.au/> and Facebook page Cornish Downunder

**ECHUCA:** 'Fishing the Murray River: Photographs, stories and memorabilia' is an exhibition that looks at the history of the Murray River fishing, from Aboriginal fish traps to today's commercial industry and recreational fishing. Includes photographs of the 'Big One'. 1 Dickson Street, Echuca. Sunday 6 October – 31 January 2020. Open daily from 10am-2pm.

**FRIENDS OF GULF STATION:** On Saturday 12 October, 10am-4pm Gulf Station will be hosting the Victorian Working Draught Horse Association (VWDHA). Tour the homestead, garden and outbuildings and watch the working horses in action. There will also be other displays such as blacksmiths, craft demonstrations, basket makers, spinners and weavers, leather makers, bush bands, bush poetry and food on offer. Tickets: Adult \$12, Concession \$10, Child \$7, Family (2 adults & 2 children) \$35. National Trust members enter free. 1029 Melba Highway Yarra Glen.

**HEIDELBERG:** The society is conducting a 'Mount Eagle Walk' around the curved streets and hidden parks atop Mount Eagle. It will include information about the aboriginal canoe trees, the Eaglemont Estate Company, the 'Heidelberg School' of Australian Impressionists, Desbrowe Annear and Walter Burley Griffin. Cost: \$20 per person (includes a 24 page booklet). You can pay on the day. Dates: two dates to choose from. Saturday 5 October at 2.00pm or Sunday 6 October 10.00am.

Meet at the corner of The Eyrie and Summit Drive Eaglemont. The walk will take 90-120 minutes, and some streets are steep. Booking: please email [heidelberg.historical.society@gmail.com](mailto:heidelberg.historical.society@gmail.com) indicating which day you prefer and the number attending.

**MALMSBURY:** Can you help? The society is planning an update of its publication 'Historic Malmsbury: A self-guided tour'. Due to technical and software difficulties we are unable to edit our original publication and the document will need to be prepared from scratch. We have edited text and maps ready to use and we would like to

have assistance from someone with a proven record of preparing and publishing documents, and have the ability and time to work with the Society and agreed timetable. If you or someone you know have the skills and interest to assist us, we would welcome your enquiry. Please email us at [malmsburyhistorical@gmail.com](mailto:malmsburyhistorical@gmail.com) with your expression of interest and experience.

**MONASH:** 'Oakleigh-Carnegie RSL 1919-2019: A Century Honouring and Supporting Veterans' is an exhibition commemorating one hundred years of the Oakleigh-Carnegie RSL. A collection of oral histories, as well as interesting documents and artefacts that depict the important work of the RSL in honouring and supporting our soldiers following their service in the many conflicts since World War One. Open 10.00am-5.00pm Tuesdays and Thursdays until the end of December, Monash Federation Centre, 3 Atherton Road, Oakleigh.

**NARRE WARREN FAMILY:** The group, in conjunction with the South Eastern Historical Society, are holding a free seminar on Sunday 13 October 13: 'Cemeteries: Bringing History to Life'. Guest speakers include: Jan Rigby and Lois Comeadow (Brighton Cemeterians), Friends of cemeteries groups and Brighton Cemeterians, Val Wilson (Morningson & District HS), Morningson Cemetery and its website, Libby Skidmore (Bass Valley HS), Mourning Customs, Jane Rivett-Carnac (NW&DFHG). You can learn a lot in a cemetery: dead men do tell tales, Dr Celestina Sagazio (SMCT) Interesting cemetery tales and humorous epitaphs. Venue: Cranbourne Complex Meeting Room (Casey Radio Station entrance) 1/65 Berwick-Cranbourne Road, Cranbourne East. Reserve your place at:

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/cemeteries-bringing-history-to-life-tickets-62554661677?aff=ebdshpsearchautocomplete>

**PORT FAIRY:** A new exhibition at the Museum to coincide with The Vintage Weekend in the town: 'Port Fairy in the Fifties'. Including fashion and accessories, there are items worn by our residents in the 1950s, 1950s streetscapes and scenes featuring the Lillian Powling Collection. There are some great fashions on display as well as games and toys, the books we read and the music we listened to and played. Adults \$5.00; Children 12 to 18 years \$1.00; Children under 12 free. Drop in and see what Port Fairy was like in the 1950's. Museum opening times: Saturdays and Wednesday 2-5 pm, Sundays 10.30am-12.30pm

**QUEENSCLIFF:** Sunday 20 October, Lynne Leonhardt author of *Step Up Mrs Dugdale* and descendant of Henrietta Augusta Dugdale, is launching her book in Queenscliff. This is an unforgettable portrait of a pioneering suffragist, a hero for women and a trailblazer for her time. On 28 November Professor Judith Brett, historian and author of *The*

*Enigmatic Mr Deakin*, brings Deakin's public political, inner religious and private domestic roles to life. Deakin developed the property at Point Lonsdale both as a place of relaxation and contemplation. It was intended to be a place of retreat. At the Uniting Church Hall, cnr Hesse and Stokes Sts Queenscliff, at 10am for a 10.30am start. Prices: \$7 Non-members, \$5 Members, includes tea and coffee.

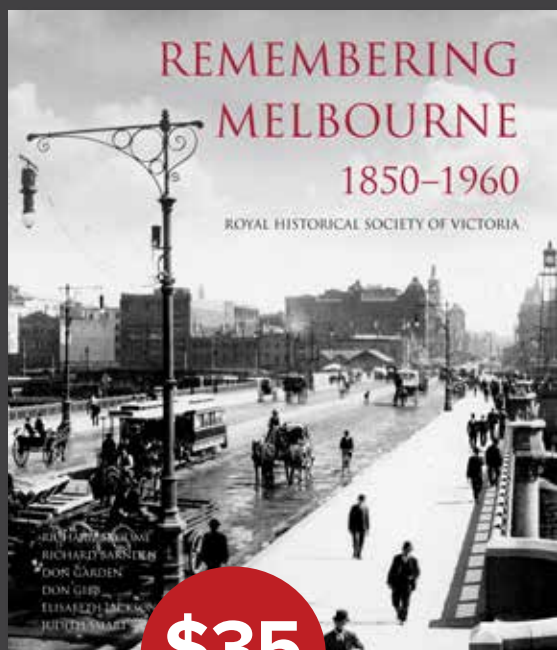
**WANDONG:** 'RU Ready? 10 Years On' is a collaboration with the Wandong CFA to increase awareness of local bushfire history and community preparedness through delivery of photographic display, Emergency Kits. This is a community connectedness event at the Wandong Memorial Park on Saturday 19 October commencing at 11.00am.

The event is designed to raise our community's awareness and preparedness for the upcoming bushfire season and for any future emergency events. As part of that preparedness, the Wandong CFA will provide information and advice around 'Knowing Your Risk' along with fun activities for all as part of their Fire Action Week.

The Wandong History Group will, as part of their History Week activities, stage a Post Bushfire Recovery Photographic Exhibition to showcase the community's resilience as well as screening our 2019 Commemorative DVD and unveiling a whole of Wandong Primary School artwork. We hope you will come along to this special day and would appreciate your RSVP by 16 October to: [wandonghistorygroup4@gmail.com](mailto:wandonghistorygroup4@gmail.com)

**WARRNAMBOOL FAMILY HISTORY:** Cemetery walks 2020. Planning is underway for the walks to be conducted next January. The chosen theme is 'One Hundred Years Ago'. If you know of someone who had a significant event (birth, marriage, death, new business, arrival in Australia, etc.) in 1920, please let a member of the Committee know about it. The person must, of course, be buried in Warrnambool Cemetery and preferably have a headstone.

# RHSV'S MELBOURNE BOOKS FOR CHRISTMAS!!



**\$35**  
+ POSTAGE



MEMBERS  
PRE-CHRISTMAS  
PRICE

**\$24**  
+ POSTAGE

RHSV'S LATEST BOOK: Melbourne's Twenty Decades  
OUT IN NOVEMBER! \$28 RRP + Postage

## 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.)

