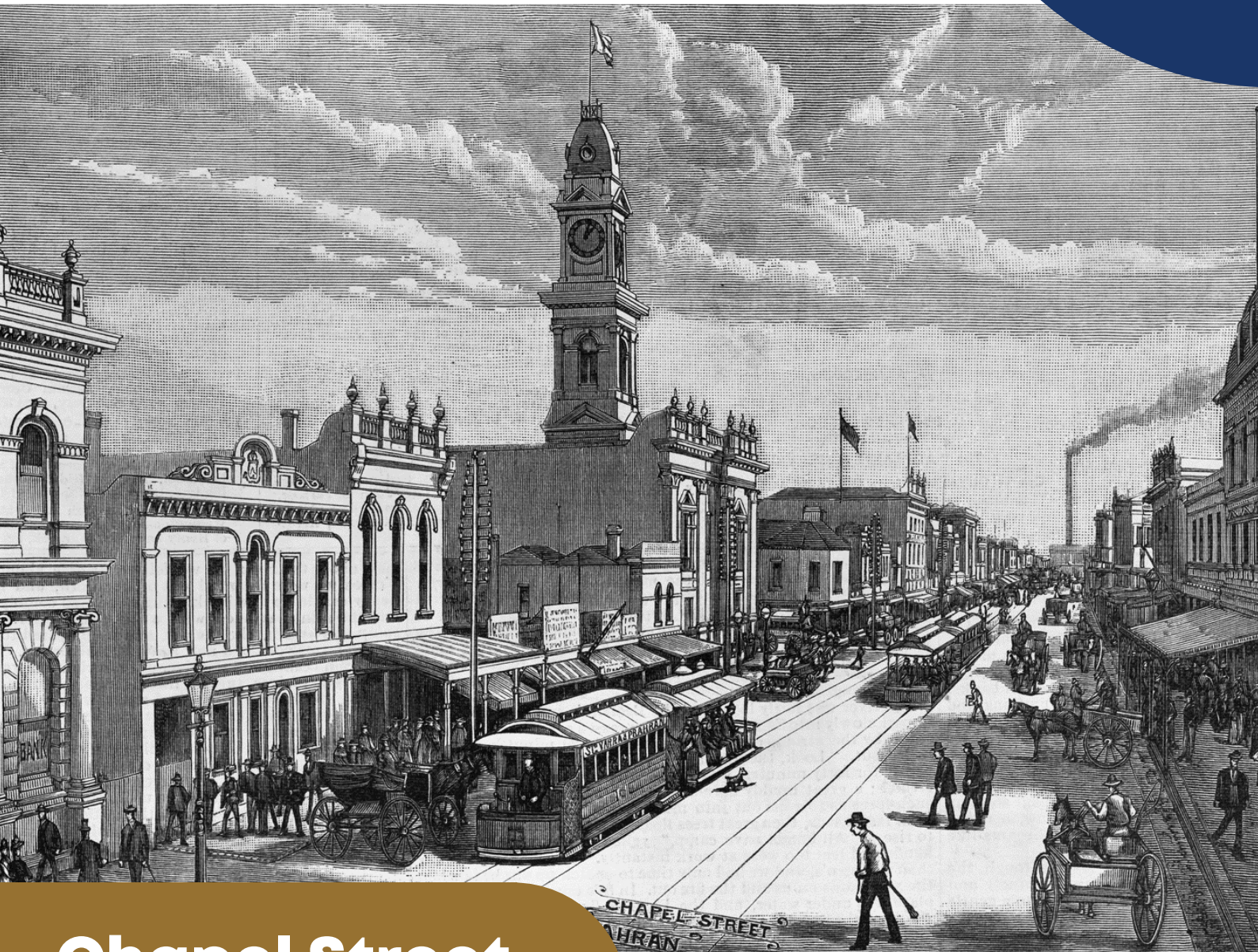


HISTORY NEWS

ISSUE.345 DECEMBER 2019



Chapel Street Prahran 1889

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President's Report

Strong not-for-profit organisations succeed because of excellent paid staff, generous members, enthusiastic volunteers and committee members and a self-help attitude among all involved that lifts the Society to greater achievements.

The RHSV has excellent staff in Executive Officer Rosemary Cameron, Collections Manager Jillian Hiscock, Office Manager Pankaj Sirwani and Marketing Officer Jessica Watson. Each day they give service of high quality and of a duration beyond that for which they are paid. I wish them a well-earned rest over the coming Summer season.

The many members who have donated to the RHSV are listed here. Without their great generosity and thoughtfulness, the RHSV would not be able to carry out the work we do to protect and disseminate the history of this state to and for all Victorians and those beyond our borders.

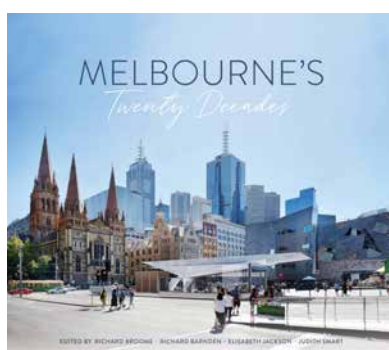
Each day that I come into the Drill Hall, 'History House' as we now call it, I see volunteers at computer work stations or at desks on various tasks to manage our various collections. Most have their special day to attend, so each day of the week presents new faces. Their zeal and dedication are infectious. Our rooms also house committees of which we have seven officially operating and reporting monthly to Council, as well as some informal groups working on various projects. These volunteers and

committees are engaged in helping the RHSV to fulfil its mission.

I am pleased to announce the creation of a magnificent self-help effort, a new joint project of the Collections and Publications committees. A team of four committee members, supported by ten RHSV members who authored chapters of the book, has assembled a magnificent new record of Melbourne, *Melbourne's Twenty Decades*, make it one of your Christmas present selections. And a special pre-January price is being offered (excluding postage and handling), details of which are on the back page of this issue.

I wish you a safe and joyous festive season and hope you enjoy the summer reading of this issue of *History News* and the December issue of the *Victorian Historical Journal*.

Richard Broome



Roll call of honour

Between January and October 2019, we received donations from the following members and friends (sometimes multiple donations). Their generosity is unbounded and very much appreciated. Thank you one and all.

Anonymous	McKellar, Ian
Adams, John	McLelland, Jessica
Arnold, Heather	McPhee Peter
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Barnett, Darryn	Moffatt, Gordon
Beckwith, Fiona	Mohoric, Erika
Bede, Mandy	Moore, Geraldine
Birtley, Margaret	& Gerry
Blainey, Geoffrey	Morton, Richard
Blampey, Matthew	Myers, Maria
Blizzard-Moore	Netherway, Nina
Marilyn	Newman, Elisabeth
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Clarkson, Richard	Port Phillip Pioneers
Cohn, Helen	Group
Cole, Harry & Valda	Powell, Pauline
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McCarthy, Susan	
McDonald, Janet	
McLean, Helen	

Weston Bate Fund
Broome, Richard

Don Gibb Fund
Trioli, Rosalie

Bequest
The Estate of Robert
Andrew

History News

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

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COVER

Cooke A. C. (Albert Charles), 1836-1902 'Two suburban streets: Chapel Street Prah-ran' Melbourne: Alfred Martin Ebsworth, October 3, 1889, wood engraving SLV, view on-line <https://viewer.slvvic.gov.au/?entity=E8284397&file=FL16442451&mode=browse> See 'What's on' p3, 'Early Melbourne Suburbs'

What's On

Attendance at any and all RHSV events should be booked through our website: www.historyvictoria.org.au/rhsv-events/

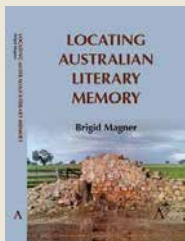
All events are held at RHSV, 239 A'Beckett St, Melbourne VIC 3000, unless otherwise stated.

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

BOOK LAUNCH: LOCATING AUSTRALIAN LITERARY MEMORY

Thursday 12 December

5:30pm for 6pm launch
RHSV Gallery Downstairs
Free event



The RHSV is delighted to host the launch of Brigid Mager's *Locating Australian Literary Memory* which explores the cultural meanings suffusing local literary commemorations. It is orientated around eleven authors: Adam Lindsay Gordon, Joseph Furphy, Henry Handel Richardson, Henry Lawson, A. B. 'Banjo' Paterson, Nan Chauncy, Katharine Susannah Prichard, Eleanor Dark, P. L. Travers, Kylie Tennant and David Unaipon: who have all been celebrated through a range of forms including statues, huts, trees, writers' houses and assorted objects.

John Arnold, book historian and former editor of the *La Trobe Journal*, will launch this book and also there will be readings from the Henry Lawson, Adam Lindsay Gordon and Henry Handel Richardson societies (and maybe a Banjo Paterson song!)

EXHIBITION: THE SWAMP VANISHES

A casualty of 'exigent and remorseless modern civilization'

From 23 January 2020

Curator: Lenore Frost

Before European settlers arrived in the Port Phillip district, a large wetland that lay between the Yarra River and the Moonee Ponds Creek sustained the indigenous people and the cultural traditions of the Kulin nation.

It was known by the new settlers as Batman's Swamp, later West Melbourne Swamp. In less than 20 years that important wetland had been despoiled by European settlers, who turned it into a receptacle for sewerage and rubbish, and shot large numbers of birds. By the end of

the century significant engineering works had changed the very shape of the land.

A feature of the land, which had sustained Aboriginal people for millennia prior to European settlement in 1835, became a refuge for the down-and-out during the 1930s depression. 'Reclamation' works continued, until the wetland is now represented by the Dynon Road Tidal Canal, parallel to Dynon Road, and a small Wildlife Reserve.

This exhibition traces how a significant wetland vanished from sight.

WORKSHOP: BORN DIGITAL DOCUMENTS

Friday 24 January 2020

10am-3pm

\$30 – \$50

Presented by the Royal Historical Society of Victoria and Victorian Collections, this hands-on workshop provides an introduction to the principles of acquiring, storing, cataloguing and caring for born-digital material. This workshop is suitable for beginners who may have, or plan to acquire, digital images, media files or documents in their collection.

Participants are asked to bring along their own laptop or contact the organisers to arrange a device upon booking. Morning tea and afternoon tea will be provided and we will break for a self-catered lunch.

SEMINAR: EARLY MELBOURNE SUBURBS 1835

Saturday 1 February 2020

10am-4pm

\$45 / \$60

The RHSV and GSV co-present this full-day seminar which will give participants a deep understanding of the forces and influences which shaped Melbourne's early growth.

The seminar will open with an overview by historian Gary Presland on how Melbourne's geography influenced its development followed by historians describing the development of

their particular suburb.

Footscray by Carmel Taig

Prahran by Steven Haby and Judith Buckrich

Heidelberg by Graham Thorley

'Up Sydney Road': Brunswick and Coburg by Cheryl Griffin

This seminar is designed for those who want to deepen their understanding of Melbourne's development as well as those who are researching their family or community history and want to understand the why, who, when, what and how of Melbourne's growth.

Refreshments: Light lunch & refreshments provided throughout the day.

LECTURE: JOHN MARSHALL AND BOUNTY MIGRATION TO PORT PHILLIP

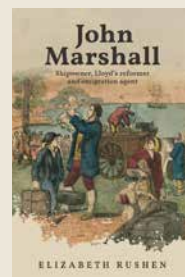
Tuesday 18 February 2020

5:15pm drinks, launch / lecture at 6pm.

FREE

Emeritus Professor Graeme Davison AO, Chair of the History Council of Victoria, will launch Dr Liz Rushen's book, *John Marshall: Shipowner, Lloyd's reformer and emigration agent*.

After the launch, Dr Rushen will deliver a paper which explores the significant role John Marshall played in the white settlement of the Port Phillip District. When Port Phillip was first opened up for settlement, Marshall was Britain's most active emigration agent: in the three years 1839-1841, he sent 21 ships containing nearly 5000 bounty migrants to the new settlement. A major London shipowner, Marshall instigated reform of *Lloyd's Register of Shipping* and established Britain's first emigration depot at Plymouth, but today his contributions to the ship-owning and merchant worlds of the nineteenth century have been largely forgotten.



John Francis Waghorn 1936-2019

John Waghorn worked for the Post Master General (PMG), as Australia's postal service was then known, for nearly forty years and this sparked his interest in postal history. He avidly researched this, and other topics, and gave a comprehensive collection on the postal history of Victoria 1837-1901 to the State Library of Victoria.

In 1971 John married Phyllis Gribble and they had four children, Rosemary, Peter, Suzanne and Michael. The family lived in the Lalor district for forty-eight years and also owned a large block at Swift's Creek. John was often seen pedaling around the Whittlesea region, photographing and documenting changes. For years he was

both treasurer and vice president of the Whittlesea Historical Society.

After amassing voluminous papers, John built a second adjacent house as his family grew. However, as each left home they were ultimately replaced by 80 filing cabinets, which proved inadequate as stacks of newspapers evaded control. He typed up findings on an old Olivetti typewriter and reused ribbons by rewinding them upside down, thus producing records in red.

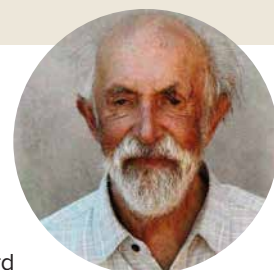
Always generous with his time, John helped numerous researchers including me. On my visits to the Public Record Office Victoria with John he often spent more time

assisting me and others than on his own inquiries. The RHSV presented him with an Award of Merit in 2000.

Although ill for the last few years of his life, John remained cheerful. He died on 13 September 2019 and more than 100 people attended his funeral at St Clare's Catholic Church, Thomastown West.

John Rose,

Royal Historical Society of Victoria



History Victoria Support Group

A sincere thank-you to all the groups who replied to the on-line survey. There was a great response. A report on the survey will be published separately in this edition of *History News*. Thank you to Rosemary Cameron, EO of RHSV for the distribution, compilation and analysis of the survey data.

During September, Sue Thompson and I undertook a road trip to Mildura and throughout the Mallee and Wimmera regions, visiting as many societies as we could humanly fit into a very tight schedule. Our heartfelt thanks to all who made us feel so welcome and we apologise that our visits were all too short. We were very impressed with the quality of the museums, archival collections and the very innovative methods of fund-raising activities used by the groups. Visually, it was evident that many hours of hard work had been performed by the members of the twenty-six or so societies we visited and contacted. Congratulations to all societies, well done and keep up the good work!

Thank you to the members who willingly shared their past achievements and

exciting plans for the future. We know that some groups have experienced extreme disasters and issues in the recent past, and some are facing hard and difficult challenges for the future. These include: governance of societies, aging memberships, techniques for attracting and retaining volunteers, training of volunteers, the need for computer systems and software, scanning and cataloguing collections, writing grant and funding applications, succession planning and financial viability.

With the information and data gained from our survey and road trip, the RHSV Council and members of HVSG are hoping to better address the needs of our societies in 2020.

Please remember to check the RHSV website for helpful advice on many and varied topics. There are templates of various policy documents which can be downloaded. If you are having difficulties accessing the data, make contact with the RHSV by email or by phone.

Alleyne Hockley

Convenor HVSG (RHSV)



*HVSG members on 8 November at 2020 planning meeting.
Back row left to right: Alleyne Hockley, Pauline Hitchins, Larina Strauch, George Fernando and Professor Don Garden
Front row left to right: Sue Thompson, Bernard Bolch and Judy Richards
Absent: Jane Nigro*



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Survey

Many thanks to our affiliated historical societies which recently took part in our bench-marking survey. Every few years these surveys provide us with valuable program-planning information and also shape how we use our (admittedly limited) resources to assist historical societies. We are very conscious, with some 400 historical societies across Victoria, that our workshops only reach a small proportion each year and we are constantly looking for ways to value-add to our whole membership wherever they are located in the state.

Historical Societies

Almost 50% of our affiliated historical societies responded giving us a great sample. The vast majority of the responses described themselves as a combinations of museums and archives with some including library. Very few include advocacy for the preservation of local heritage in their descriptions.

Collections

The largest proportion of historical societies (38%) described their collection as evenly spread between museum, library and archives. A further 27% said that their collection is mostly their own archives and 17% described their collection as mostly museum. However, 6% of historical societies don't have a collection; we might presume that they are within the 8% that don't have a home?

To maintain collections, spreadsheets remain supreme as a cataloguing tool (25%) followed by Inmagic's DB/TextWorks (22%) and Victorian Collections (16%).

A Home

92% of historical societies have a home. Of those 92% with a home, an impressive 13% reported that they own their home. 48% of those historical society homes are provided by local government, while 22% are provided by state governments.

Income sources

It was encouraging to see the diversity and inventiveness of income sources – whilst local government remains the major income source, grants, sponsorship, donations, fundraising, membership, research fees, merchandise and ticket sales are consistently important as income sources.

Just 24% of societies have Deductible Gift Recipient status (they can issue tax-deductible receipts for donations of \$2+) and the RHSV hopes to launch a scheme early next year to assist the other 76% of societies access tax-deductibility.

Memberships

The good news is that the majority of historical societies are travelling well. 30% reported that their membership is growing, 45% that membership is steady and only 23% reported that membership is declining.

Threatened Local Heritage: Social Value in Heritage

Early morning scene at Victoria Market, Melbourne; showing horse-drawn delivery vans crowding street (possibly Queen Street or Peel Street), c. 1900 [RHSV Collection NEG-1573]



Rebecca Madgin, Professor of Urban Studies at the University of Glasgow, spent the last three months at the School of Historical and Philosophical Studies, University of Melbourne. She brought a bracing optimism that we are doing well, particularly in protecting 'social value' and the 'intangible' aspects of historic sites, such as Fed Square and the Queen Victoria Market.

But we face new challenges on both these cases. The fundamental problem is governance by private corporations whose aim is to make a profit to pay for maintenance. On Fed Square, the current review accepts the current model. We believe that public space should not be operated with profit as the main motive.

On the Queen Victoria Market, Melbourne City Council refuse to go back to the drawing boards and develop a vision for the market that would build on its heritage. Instead, they still seek to implement the discredited plan, put forward by Melbourne's former Lord Mayor, Robert Doyle, minus the underground facilities which were rejected by Heritage Victoria. Traders would no longer bring their produce to their stalls and operate from their vans. Instead they would unload at central docks, transport it to their stalls by electric trolleys. Visuals show neat rows of identical stainless-steel counters; but, understandably, these visuals have not been made public.

In 2017, Council faced a rising tide of popular opposition to Doyle's plan. To persuade the community that they were being heard, Council commissioned an excellent report, 'Queen Victoria Market: Intangible Values', which highlighted 'the most common anxiety was around the Market being "cleaned up" or "sanitised," and "made to look like a "food hall" rather than a "working site." That would "diminish the experience of being there" (pp. 8, 24). The transformation of the market's operation now planned will lead to exactly what people have opposed all along.

The attempt to hide 'back of house' operations by central unloading and discreet movement of goods goes against the value of movement, which, the report found, is part of what shoppers and visitors value:

The Market never stops moving. Movement was crucial to how shoppers

and visitors perceived the goods, produce, environments and other people at the site, with implications for display and interaction with goods for sale. This was comprised of many different elements: a mix of adults and children of different physical abilities and habits; cars, trucks and forklifts; trolleys, prams and scooters; bins and boxes; and other aspects.

People do not come to the QVM in search of a modern, hygienic environment, 'a brighter, lighter, cleaner, greener and more pleasant environment that is clearly historic, yet subtly contemporary' (Melbourne City Council, *Precinct Renewal Master Plan*, p. 16). They come because of the atmosphere generated by the way the market operates, and that 'intangible social value', we are arguing, is part of its heritage value. It operates today as when it began operation in 1878, with stallholders bringing goods to their stall in their vehicles, putting up their stalls and operating from their vehicles. The shift to central distribution and, especially, uniform steel counters in place of the current beloved hodgepodge goes completely against what is valued in the Market. Our photo shows how the market has always functioned around traders' and patrons' vehicles.

Local heritage is still a problem but there is some hope. The Heritage Council is currently conducting a State of Heritage Review on Local Heritage. On behalf of the Council, we administered a questionnaire to all member historical societies on their experience of local heritage issues.

The survey closed on 17 May 2019. Of our three hundred and forty-three member societies, an amazing one hundred and sixteen responded, proving to us that heritage is a very important topic

to our members. This result augurs well for grassroots participation in preservation issues as well as helping the Heritage Council to formulate some recommendations for the Minister. The complete report can be located on the RHSV web site.

The survey results fed into the review process, along with surveys of Council Officers and Heritage Professionals. The results were discussed at a Heritage Council Workshop on the 'State of Heritage' held on 1st November 2019. Judith Smart, Ian Wight and I attended as representatives of the RHSV.

A major subject of discussion was how to improve heritage protection at the local level. We were limited because 'an analysis of the regulatory framework and planning scheme' is beyond the terms of reference, but the workshop addressed some significant issues raised by our survey.

We discussed restoring grants to encourage heritage studies and advice, especially in regional areas and less wealthy urban areas, but also requirements that Councils update their heritage coverage regularly. We also discussed ways to reduce the cost and complexity of heritage studies, improvements to the governance of these studies, and ways to better integrate heritage protection into the planning system. The final report will be published next year.

We are still anxious if not alarmed by the state of local heritage but as 2019 ends we can be alert and hopeful of some improvement.

Charles Sowerwine,

Chair, Heritage Committee.

MacGillivray Hall and the Bendigo School of Mines

Imagine Britain in the early 1800s with the Industrial Revolution in full swing! This was a time of great change and many advancements which saw the mechanization of industry. One of the many consequences was the desire and need for education in technology and science. In 1823 the Glasgow Mechanic's Institute opened followed by another in London later the same year. While there had been earlier short-term open universities and mechanics' institutions aimed at the 'working man', these two became the forerunners for a widespread movement in the United Kingdom, America and Australia.

Here in Bendigo, or Sandhurst as it was known, April 1854 saw a Mechanic's Institute committee formed and the Government provided a grant of land on McCrae Street for the purpose of erecting an institute. This, Bendigo's first Mechanic's Institute, was officially opened on 5 August 1856.

During the period 1859 to 1861 the library facilities were greatly expanded, assisted by Government grants and the introduction of gas lighting. With the mining boom of 1860-61 the 1862 library membership had risen in excess of four hundred. At this point the Institute Committee decided on the erection of a new and more appropriate building and architects Vahland and Getzschmann were contracted, with their design and plan preparation work commencing in 1863.

'The foundation stone of the new Mechanic's Institute, Sandhurst, was laid yesterday, with great ceremony,' the *Herald* reported on the July 22 1864. Initially the two-story building, completed in 1865, with a frontage to McCrae Street and of width exactly half the present building was, by all accounts, a disappointment. Its drab facade of red brick 'looked like a brickyard', according to one account. Despite a fire on Christmas Day 1865 and some financial difficulties, the library and reading room on the ground floor was well used and the fine hall above proved very functional, providing a venue for classes, lectures and public meetings. In 1871 plans to complete the 'other half' of the existing Mechanic's Institute were



*Three Storey Building, 1889, MacGillivray Hall on ground floor
L N Jackson Collection 2019*

drawn up and this extension was largely finished in 1872. Then, in 1878, William Charles Vahland was again engaged as an architect for another incarnation of the building; his partner Robert Getzschmann, having passed away in 1875. This major refurbishment included a completely new Italianate facade, exactly as we view it today. Whilst this activity was underway in 'colonial' Australia, a story in Scotland was unfolding. The stories would eventually intersect and provide an intriguing episode in the history of Bendigo in general and the Bendigo School of Mines in particular.

Paul Howard MacGillivray was born in Edinburgh in 1834 and educated at Marischal College in the University of Aberdeen. He initially studied natural sciences but changed to medicine and achieved Membership of the Royal College of Surgeons in 1855. Later that year he migrated to Melbourne.

Between the years 1862 to 1873, MacGillivray was the resident surgeon at the Bendigo Hospital and also took up private practice from his substantial private residence. Although his great love was still natural science, he wrote many papers and essays on surgical matters; in 1874 he was elected president of the Medical Society of Victoria.

MacGillivray maintained keen interests in a range of topics including natural science. During his life held positions as elected member of the Philosophical Institute, later Royal Society of Victoria and Fellow of The Linnaean Society of London. In 1881 he presented the inaugural address to the Bendigo School of Mines Science Society.

It was not surprising that the extremely talented MacGillivray was in 1867 elected to the committee managing the Sandhurst Mechanic's Institute and Free Library. As earlier described, the Institute had struggled financially and it was hoped that

the newly formed committee of 1867 with Angus Mackay as president would initiate a vast improvement. Mackay, as editor of the *Bendigo Advertiser*, was one of the most influential citizens in Sandhurst.

In 1869 the Technological Commission established Australia's first official organization for technical education. This led to discussions concerning establishing a school of mines. A new autonomous governing council to oversee the development of a school was formed from the existing Mechanic's Institute Council. Dr. MacGillivray was one of the five elected members. The Department of Mines provided financial help, very likely as a result of Mackay's successful lobbying!

The major increase in the size of the Mechanics Institute building with the extensions of 1872 provided extra teaching space, whilst the museum with its growing collection was provided with its own room. The Bendigo School of Mines officially opened for students on April 21, 1873 and Dr. MacGillivray was an important member of the Administration Council charged with the day-to-day running of the school.

In July 1887 J B Lillie Mackay was appointed to the new position of Director Scientific Head of the School. A Scot and formerly on the staff of the Royal School of

Mines, London and more recently of Trinity College, University of Melbourne, Mackay was another example of a highly qualified person attracted to a Bendigo School of Mines post. He was consulted about ventilation of Mines Board for which he expected payment. This led to a rift with the council and with MacGillivray who was now its President, Mackay telling them 'to mind their own business'.

Animosity between the two Scots, Mackay and MacGillivray developed, as without doubt the 'founding fathers' led by MacGillivray were reluctant to let their authority be undermined. In particular, MacGillivray held a deep concern for the welfare of the School.

Expansion by way of an adjacent grand new three story building was planned and the foundation stone laid in 1889 by the Minister for Education, the Honorable Charles H Pearson. At this time the teaching of art was extremely important with a major section of the new building being devoted to this area - Professor Pearson stating at the time, 'the drawing classes at the Sandhurst School of Mines were the most efficient in the colony'.

On this theme it may be noted that the Council appointed the very talented Englishman, Arthur T Woodward as head of the Art School in 1893. Woodward was an accomplished painter, sculptor

and teacher. Under his guidance there emerged a group of local painters of considerable ability.

In 1893, as recognition for MacGillivray's wonderful services to science and education, the University of Aberdeen conferred on him an Honary Doctorate of Laws. Paul MacGillivray passed away in 1895.

With the growth of the School of Mines, the role of the Sandhurst Mechanic's Institute and Free Library greatly diminished so that in 1904 all the remaining assets of the Institute were taken over by the School of Mines. The hall, on the ground floor of the new building was originally illuminated by gas lamps, the unique 'Sunlight' 'gasoliers' being manufactured in Bendigo. The illumination today is of course by electricity but apart from this little has changed except that it officially became 'MacGillivray Hall' in 1854. A lovely marble plaque at the entrance commemorates Dr. MacGillivray as the founder of the Science Society.

Many school balls and social functions are recalled by the author but today the hall is little used, exceptions being the gatherings of the MacGillivray Clan and a display by the Bendigo Woodturners each Easter.

Lindsay Jackson



School of Mines Bendigo c 1950
The 1878 Facade of the Sandhurst Mechanics Institute and Free Library.
Two 2 storeys is on the left whilst the 1889/1890 3 storey structure plus tower is on the right
SLV <http://handle.slv.vic.gov.au/10381/374477>



The Original MacGillivray Hall – note the Gasoliers

Right: Dr. P H MacGillivray



The Ferguson & Urie stained glass window at St Paul's Anglican Church, Humffray Street, Bakery Hill, Ballarat, 1862

The Ferguson & Urie company was originally founded in 1853 as a Plumbing, Slating & Glazing firm, by three Scots, James Ferguson and his brother David from Ayr, and James Urie from Kilmarnock. In 1861 they saw a business opportunity and transformed the North Melbourne company towards the production of ecclesiastical and secular stained-glass windows and commercial glazing.

In March 1862, St Paul's Anglican Church at Bakery Hill, Ballarat, became the custodian of one of the earliest Ferguson & Urie stained-glass windows. Whilst a lot of the company's early decorative windows can be attributed to the wealth generated from the gold rush, the historic window at St Paul's nearly met its demise because of it.

The site of St Paul's has its own infamy in Colonial history. In proximity to a flagpole at the rear of the church is a brass star marking the historic assembly point of the 'Monster Meeting' at Bakery Hill which preceded the Eureka Stockade Rebellion in December 1854. The miners won their demands but ten years later their gold digging would contribute to the demise of St Paul's.

In early April 1864 the liturgical east end of St Paul's began to subside due to gold mining activity and heavy rain. Fortunately, the historic window was rescued before it was damaged. In late 1864 the church reconstruction began a few metres in front of the original tower; the church was formally re-opened on

23rd April 1865 with the Ferguson & Urie window erected in the chancel.

In the centre-light of the window is the inscription; "Blessed are they that dwell in the house, they will be still praising thee - Psalms 84 Verse 4". The text is twisted around a beautiful crimson floriated Cross on a rich blue background.

The parishioners of St Paul's are aware of the window's historical significance, but outside the church there are few who know it exists or of its importance to our colonial history.

When the three-light window was installed in St Paul's in March 1862, it was said to be the very first of its kind in Ballarat. Ferguson & Urie supplied the following description:

...The triplet window in the chancel is designed in accordance with the style of the recent additions to the building, that of the latter half of the fourteenth century – a period of transition from the decorated, or middle pointed style, into the perpendicular. It is filled in with a pattern in keeping with the principals of the glass painters of that period. Their details were taken from flowers and leaves. So, in this design is seen the passion flower and its leaf; the vine, maple, and thistle leaves. In the top piece of tracery is the Paschal lamb and banner, and in the largest piece of tracery are monograms of our Saviour...

Star, 31st March 1863, p2.

Ferguson & Urie's transformation towards

commercial stained-glass production in 1861 was in response to the outrageous prices being charged by European stained-glass firms and exorbitant shipping costs to Australia.

After securing the talents of a Scottish stained-glass artist named John Lamb Lyon in early 1861, the company started experimenting with their colonial versions of the medieval stained-glass craft. Lyon stated in an interview for the *Australasian Decorator and Painter* in 1909, that when he joined Ferguson & Urie in 1861 they made their own colours and acids and fired the glass in a colonial camp oven.

In 1862 a Sturt Street decorator named Thomas Robson had undertaken to be the Ballarat agent for Ferguson & Urie stained-glass and this window for St Paul's gave his decorating firm great prestige, as well as creating considerable exposure for Ferguson & Urie across eastern Australia and New Zealand.

Different parts of the window were gifted to St Paul's. Ferguson & Urie donated the upper tracery windows and Thomas Robson donated the centre lancet which contains the biblical verse wrapped around the cross. The two outer lancets were paid for by the church committee.

The donation of the tracery lights was a significant financial and marketing decision for Ferguson & Urie. At this fledgling stage of their stained-glass business they desperately needed the advertising exposure. Tabloid articles began to appear across the colonies

Holsworth Heritage Trust Grants

This year marks the fifteenth year that the Holsworth Heritage Trust grants have been dispersed. The purpose of this Trust, a charitable fund within the Victorian Community Foundation, is to invite applications for grants from not-for-profit organisations such as historical societies, clubs, schools and museums in regional and rural Victoria.

At a time when other funding bodies are pulling back from funding print publications, the Holsworth Grants, based in Bendigo, simply get more and more important in safeguarding the preservation and promotion of our stories and our history. The vision and generosity behind the Holsworth Heritage Trust has assisted an impressive 100+ publications to print.

Congratulations to those groups who successfully applied in 2019:

Berwick Pakenham Historical Society

Dunkeld Museum Inc

Federation University: Centre for Gippsland Studies

Korong (Wedderburn) Historical Society

Mornington & District Historical Society

Phillip Island Cemetery Trust

Stawell Historical Society and

Warrnambool & District Historical Society

We look forward to reading their publications in the near future. Information about 2020 applications can be found on our website: <https://www.historyvictoria.org.au/programs/holsworth-local-heritage-grants/>



Chancel window at St. Paul's Anglican Church, Humffray Street Ballarat.
Ray Brown
<https://fergusonandurie.wordpress.com/2012/02/12/the-star-ballarat-saturday-1st-march-1862-page-2/>

praising their stained-glass workmanship for St Paul's. These accolades were the precursor to many more windows over the next thirty-eight years.

If you pick the right time of day to view the historic window you will be rewarded by a magnificent kaleidoscope of the rich primary colours. The crimson cross and the sidelights with Gothic depictions of the passion flower and vine leaves cast a beautiful pattern across the chancel floor which the window has been doing for more than a century and a half.

Further history on Ferguson & Urie stained-glass and the company can be seen at:

<http://fergusonandurie.wordpress.com>

Ray Brown

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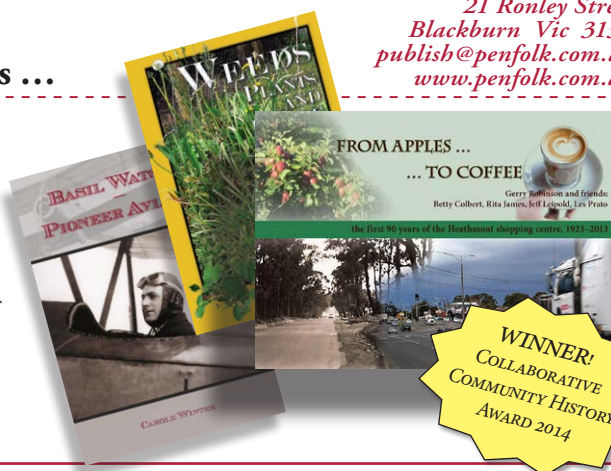
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'The Ripple Effect': 21 Years of the Victorian Community History Awards

The VCHA guest speaker for 2019, Dr Lyn Gallacher, titled her discussion of oral history 'The Ripple Effect'. This could well be applied to the VCHA, which has never made a big splash, but ripples through the history world. The competition, unique in Australia, has attracted nearly 3,000 projects from across Victoria over 21 years. Although the influence is elusive, the Awards have undoubtedly raised the standard and profile of community history, stimulated further projects, reinforced a sense of belonging, and revealed wider truths.

The RHSV President, Emeritus Professor Richard Broome, welcomed 200 guests to The Pavilion at Arts Centre Melbourne on 14 October. He thanked Amy Minitier, for her meticulous and cooperative work as VCHA project officer, Tara Oldfield of Public Record Office Victoria for excellent organization, and the judges of the peer-reviewed article category, namely Professor Joy Damousi, Professor Alistair Thomson and Emeritus Professor Graeme Davison; they did not give an award this year. The main judges were Carole Woods (convenor), Dr Gary Presland and Belinda Ensor. The MC for the event was Judy Maddigan, president of the Public Records Advisory Council.

Catherine Andrews, 'a passionate historian' herself, represented the Special Minister of State, Gavin Jennings, who had to attend a Cabinet meeting. Fascinated by story-telling since childhood, Catherine described history as 'a living, breathing reality'. She congratulated all of the 119 VCHA entrants.

Dr Gallacher, a features producer, a features producer for ABC Radio National,

mused on the rich tradition of oral history, which is at once ancient and modern; recent in so far as the invention of small, inexpensive recording devices has led to a flowering of the genre. The ripple effect of the VCHA had prompted her to base an oral history project on *Secrets from the Mallacoota Bunker*, winner of the Multimedia Award in 2018. Reflecting on the power of the human voice, Dr Gallacher argued that oral history produces a different kind of understanding and 'a kind of togetherness'.

A binding together has always characterized the VCHA. This year it was exemplified in the book *More Than Just Housing*, winner of Small Publications. The project to provide low-cost housing to single people in need bound together social welfare workers, tenants, the former Port Melbourne and South Melbourne councils and the governments of John Cain and Joan Kirner.

La Nostra Storia by Jan McGuinness, which claimed the Cultural Diversity Award, focused on the Italian community of Ballarat; the book resembles a family album as it portrays departure from a troubled land, employment in a peaceful provincial city, marriage, children and the togetherness of community occasions. Continuing the Italian theme, the Italian Historical Society's exhibition on the brilliant, Italian-born engineer Carlo Catani won the Historical Interpretation prize. This exhibition brought hundreds of people together to honour Catani's many projects such as the St Kilda foreshore, Alexandra Avenue and Lake Catani.

Peg Fraser's *Black Saturday*, which won the Oral History Award, captures the

voices of bushfire victims in innovative ways, best illustrated by the poignant chapter on The Poetry Tree. A sense of community in the face of catastrophe pervades the book.

Catherine Andrews presented the Victorian Premier's History Award to Phil Roberts, author of *Avenue of Memories*. This handsome book describes the binding together of the Ballarat community to plant and preserve the longest avenue of remembrance in Australia. The impetus came not from officialdom but a groundswell led by the 'Lucas factory girls'.

While binding together is one hallmark of the VCHA, another is originality. This year the judges awarded two special prizes for books that did not sit easily in the established categories. Both authors wrote creatively to conjure up their subjects. Chloe Hooper adopts multiple perspectives as she evokes the horror of the 2009 bushfires in the Latrobe Valley and the search for *The Arsonist*.

David Sornig interweaves the mythology of the *Blue Lake* with the lives of fringe dwellers at Dudley Flats. When accepting his prize, David mentioned ideas for related projects as he speculated on the ripple effect, 'the afterlife of publication'.

A copy of the VCHA booklet is included with this edition of *History News*.

Note: A gallery of photos can be found at <https://www.flickr.com/photos/public-record-office-victoria/albums/72157711342755036>

Carole Woods

Chair of the VCHA Judges' Panel 2019



Left to Right: Daniela Riachi, left, and Elizabeth Triarico, winners of the Historical Interpretation Award. Courtesy of PROV. David Sornig, winner of a Judges' Special Prize. Courtesy of PROV. Richard Broome and Carolyn Rasmussen, winner of the Publications Award. Courtesy of PROV. Phil Roberts, winner of the Victorian Premier's History Award, and Catherine Andrews. Courtesy of PROV

The Honourable John William Taverner in London



John William Taverner became the thirteenth Agent-General for Victoria in London in 1904. Among the official representatives of the several newly-federated Australian states, each separately promoting their state's pursuits, he anticipated future direction to more constructively express Australian interests.

Taverner was a bullishly-built police sergeant's son. In 1864, when aged 11, his family settled on land in the small agricultural settlement of Kerang, in northern Victoria, 279 kilometres north west of Melbourne. There he engaged in local government and presided over the Kerang branch of the Australian Natives' Association. Ever championing agricultural concerns, he became a spokesman for Mallee settlers in Victoria's Legislative Assembly. In Melbourne, he quickly took to senior ministerial responsibilities and was tipped to be a likely Premier.

Taverner presided over Victoria's Board of Land and Works, while also commissioner for public works and minister for agriculture, in Premier George Turner's progressive government (1893–1899) that pulled Victoria out of the 1893 economic crash. Both men were proudly Melbourne-born. Turner, as Victoria's first Australian-born Premier, was determined to redeem Victoria's financial disgrace. Similarly, Taverner set to recover commercial opportunity for Victoria; he aimed to repair Victoria's reputation, and so, by association, the reputation of Australia, for financial risk.

John Taverner was a liberal federationist, who believed that centralising meant better efficiency. In 1895 he urged for the establishment of a central Australian depot in London for the butter trade, a lucrative export for Victoria. As Commissioner of the Victorian Court at The Greater Britain Exhibition of colonial displays held at Earls Court in 1899, he noted how assertively Canada promoted its resources; he argued that a central depot for all Australian products should be built in London.

With Federation, it was proposed that a High Commissioner be appointed in London, the heart of global trade and finance and the Imperial capital. In 1902 and 1904, Taverner was again commissioner for public works, vice-president then president of the Board of Land and Works, commissioner for crown lands and survey, and minister

for agriculture in the Irvine government that was intent on reducing government spending. Taverner advocated that should an Agent-General for each state be retained in the event of the appointment of a High Commissioner, all should work under one roof to more efficiently advertise Australian resources.

In 1904 Taverner was appointed with a reduced salary and limited expenses, receiving less than was paid to his predecessor. The downgrade of the Agent-General's position indicated the importance of the expected High Commission and signalled that the Agents-General should adopt a more commercial role.

Taverner's instructions were to reorganize the Victorian Agent-General's office on a commercial basis. Markets for Victorian produce should be developed, useful knowledge about the State disseminated and misinformation as to its people and resources corrected. With emphasis on building markets, rather than on immigration, Taverner set up office in London with a staff of seven. With Victoria to be marketed more aggressively, its freshly appointed Agent-General was the right man for the job.

Shortly after arriving, Taverner attended the inaugural banquet of Australian merchants in London. This association expressed the desire for better commercial representation and was among similar groupings that came together in a bid to improve commercial opportunity. Taverner, a preferentialist regarding trade, directly introduced Victorian products to London-based agents and distributors.

It was essential to counter English press reports which concerned Australians. In articles through 1908–9, London's influential *Investors' Review*, with a readership of bankers, financiers, merchants and ship-owners to which Taverner promoted Victoria, laid bare the reality of Victoria's financial problems and prospects. The paper's editor, A. J. Wilson, a financial editor of great integrity known for his probity, scolded the shallowness of Australian 'prosperity'. He singled out Victoria as being stagnant, with rising debt and a declining population.

Mindful of how extensively Canada was represented in London, where concerted action was required for effective representation, Taverner proposed that Australia build a designated 'Australia

House'. He recommended a location on the Strand, a key thoroughfare, on which to build the future official headquarters of the High Commissioner and of the State Agents. He suggested that if an Australian building were erected, the Agents-General should have the ground floor, the High Commissioner the first floor, and the other floors should be let as offices.

He favoured a block on a prominent island site belonging to the London County Council at the Strand's eastern end. This horn of land ran out into a point opposite St Clement Danes Church, where the new thoroughfare of Aldwych debouched into the Strand.

The Council divided the land it owned there. In 1907, Taverner persuaded Premier Thomas Bent to build Victoria's headquarters on a corner plot, fronting across twenty-five feet onto the Strand, so that the State of Victoria and its resources should figure prominently in London. The six-storey purpose-built Victoria House opened in March 1909. Taverner's building has served the interests of the State of Victoria since then.

Being the first to build a permanent office in the centre of London, Victoria led the other Dominion and Colonial representatives. Like Victoria's building, premises that they subsequently built or developed nearby, into the 1950s, reflected the altering nature of Imperial relationships, and invested London with the Imperial complexion that it assumed through the greater part of the twentieth century. By John Taverner's initiative, Victoria signalled what could be achieved. Knighted in 1909, Taverner remained Agent-General until 1913, and returned to Victoria in 1922, where he died the following year.

Eileen Chanin

Australian Studies Institute, Australian National University

Eileen Chanin's latest book is *Capital Designs, Australia House and Visions of an Imperial London*, Australian Scholarly Publishing, 2018.

Image: John William Taverner, image from State Library of Victoria, <https://viewer.slv.vic.gov.au/?entity=IE1900246&mode=browse>

Remembering Alfred Deakin in Fitzroy



Peter Woods, Carole Woods (no relation) and Mike Moore at the site of the former Deakin home in Gore Street, Fitzroy, 7 October 2019. Photo courtesy of Meg Lee.

Alfred Deakin died aged 63 at Llanarth, his home in South Yarra, on 7 October 1919. One hundred years later on 7 October 2019 Mike Moore, former president of the Fitzroy History Society, organized a walk in remembrance of Deakin's early association with Fitzroy.

I joined the small group of Fitzroy residents as the representative of the Royal Historical Society of Victoria. Alfred Deakin was one of the three inaugural vice presidents of the Historical Society of Victoria, as RHSV was originally known, and the society has a hand-written note in which he apologized for probable non-attendance at a preliminary meeting on 21 May 1909; a fortnight later he entered his third term as Prime Minister of Australia.

On 7 October 2019 we walked to the

site of 90 George Street. Here Alfred was born in 1856 and lived with his parents Sarah and William Deakin and older sister Catherine until he was three. In 1926 the HSV arranged for a memorial tablet to be fixed to the cottage, and society members joined Deakin descendants outside the cottage in 1956 to mark the centenary of Deakin's birth. The cottage was demolished in 1978.

After leaving George Street we walked to the site of the Deakins' second Fitzroy home at 72 Gore Street near the corner of Gertrude Street, where they lived from 1859-62. Here Alfred's love of books and theatrics flourished; he transformed a wagon belonging to stables on the street corner into a ship or fortress for his plays. Fittingly, the corner site is now occupied by Rose

Chong's costume hire shop, which weaves its own transforming magic.

The Deakins moved their Gore Street house to Adams Street, South Yarra, where it was named The Elms after an ancestral home near Grosmont, Wales. Much later, Alfred's musically gifted youngest daughter, Vera, visited the scene of his early boyhood when performing in the concerts of her cello teacher, Herr Louis Hattenbach, at his home, 13 Gore Street.

The young boy from Fitzroy rose to a leadership role in the Victorian government. As chief secretary in December 1888 he laid the foundation stone of the Fitzroy courthouse, which was an extension to the grand town hall. In a speech on this occasion, Alfred referred to Fitzroy as 'my native place'.

Carole Woods

From Municipality to City: Chairmen and Mayors of Kew 1861 – 1994

Kew Historical Society is fortunate to hold a collection of eighty-three framed photographic portraits of the mayors of Kew from 1863 to 1969. The Society recently put together an exhibition based on this collection; the exhibition also included mention of the first chairmen of the Municipality. These were George Wharton (1861- 62), of whom no portrait could be found, and John Halfey (1862- 63). He is also not represented by a portrait in the exhibition, although Kew HS owns a pair of small oil portraits of Halfey and his wife Annie, painted by an unknown artist.

The first mayoral portrait is of George Lewis (1863). It is one of many portraits to have been taken or recreated from earlier images by Josiah Earl Barnes (1858 - 1921), who was commissioned to make copy photographs of earlier images by the Kew Council from about 1912. Barnes later became known as the 'embarkation photographer' for his many photographs of soldiers leaving Port Melbourne to fight in World War I. Other portraits were taken or recreated by photographic studios such as Melba

and Burlington in the 1920s and 1930s, and C. Stuart Tompkins from the 1940s to the 1960s. The last portrait in the framed series is of Henry Wiltshire, mayor from 1968 until 1969. More recent mayoral images are owned by Kew HS, or were kindly loaned by family members. These portraits are of the twenty men and three women who held office between 1964 and 1994, the year of amalgamation with Camberwell and Hawthorn to form the City of Boroondara.

Kew HS successfully applied for a Local History Grant, administered by the Public Record Office Victoria, for the cleaning and restoration of the photographs and their frames. They were then professionally photographed, thanks to a Strengthening Communities Grant awarded by the City of Boroondara and the Rotary Club of Balwyn. To these organisations we express our gratitude; without their support, neither the exhibition nor its accompanying publication would have been possible.

The book, *From Municipality to City: Chairmen and Mayors of Kew 1861*

- 1994, is the result of a three-year research effort on the part of many Kew HS members, led by our archivist Robert Baker. The contributors sought published information, family histories and images, to compile a total of one hundred and eight biographies. These are arranged chronologically, with each decade prefaced by a useful introduction setting Kew in the context of time and place. Brief notes on the photographers are included, along with a comprehensive reference list. The publication is available from Kew HS at Kew Court House and from the RHSV Bookshop.

The exhibition is open on Fridays and Saturdays between 11am and 1pm, at Kew Court House (upstairs), 188 High Street Kew, from 18 October 2019 to 29 February 2020, excluding late December 2019 and January 2020.

Judith Scurfield

Curator, Kew Historical Society

Books Received

By John Schauble

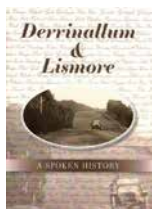
Authors, publishers and Historical Societies are invited to contribute books to the RHSV for the library and for consideration for inclusion in Books Received.

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



The Passage of the Damned. Elsbeth Hardie, Australian Scholarly Publishing, North Melbourne, 2019, pp.v-245, ISBN 9781925801651.

The *Lady Shore* was a merchant ship converted in 1797 to transport a load of mostly female convicts to New South Wales. The vessel never made it past South America, not through shipwreck but more unusually because of mutiny. Oddly, the ship had been crewed in part by a contingent of French and German prisoners of war, who were press-ganged into service in the New South Wales Corps to act as guards during the voyage. This detailed account, drawing in part upon recently unearthed primary material, explores the fate of the mutineers, the crew and the prisoners who found themselves dispersed far and wide after the event.



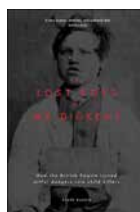
Derrinallum & Lismore: A Spoken History. Derrinallum Lismore Association Inc. History Group, Terang 2017, pp. ii-100, ISBN 9780648168508.

This collection of stories is the product of two "spoken history" events held in the communities of Derrinallum and Lismore in 2003 and 2004. A decade and a half later, a heritage trust grant has enabled their publication. Capturing these personal recollections is important, a fact underscored by the fact that some of the speakers have since died or moved away. There are intergenerational and personal stories here of settlement, family drama, returning soldiers, the wool boom, churches, farms, sporting clubs, businesses and bushfires. One storyteller quotes an entry from his grandfather's 1869 diary: 'Married today'. Then, on the following day, 'Took wife around paddocks.' There are other precious extracts from family correspondence along with many individual memories.



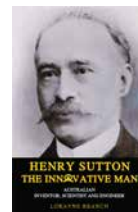
Esther. Jessica North, Allen & Unwin, Sydney, 2019, pp.vii-277, ISBN 9781760527372.

This is a new take on the story of Esther Julian (also known as Abrahams), a First Fleet convict, transported for the theft of black silk lace at the age of sixteen. In time she rose to become the wife of George Johnston, briefly Lieutenant-Governor of New South Wales after he deposed the irascible Governor William Bligh in a military coup that came to be known as the Rum Rebellion. Esther was one of the first Jewish women to arrive in the new colony. Assigned to Johnston as a servant, she became his lover, common law and many years later legal spouse. North has constructed an engaging, though partly imagined, narrative of Esther's remarkable story.



The Lost Boys of Mr Dickens. Steve Harris, Melbourne Books, Melbourne 2019, pp. 1-254, ISBN 9781925556988.

Point Puer on the Tasman Peninsula was a dire 19th century social experiment. Britain sent three thousand child convicts from the old world and dumped them on the fringes of the new. Central to this pitiable tale of child transportation are Henry Sparkes and Charles Campbell. Each was sentenced to seven years, Sparkes for stealing a halfpence and Campbell for housebreaking. They were 'disposed of', as their prison records noted, along with hundreds of other unwanted children, to Van Diemen's land in 1840 and 1841 respectively. Along with hundreds of 'depraved little felons', they became inmates of Point Puer, a unique juvenile reformatory hastily constructed near Port Arthur. This is a bleak tale, well told by Steve Harris, a former Melbourne newspaper editor and publisher.



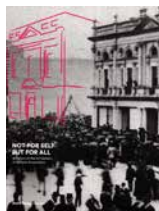
Henry Sutton: The Innovative Man. Lorayne Branch, Ballarat, 2018, pp.vii-397, ISBN 9781925332346.

This detailed account of Henry Sutton's life begins with his encounter with the Serb-American Nikola Tesla, until recently another largely forgotten inventor from a golden era of scientific discovery. Lorayne Branch is Sutton's great-granddaughter and this is her bid to elevate him from the relative obscurity that has seen his name more often linked with the formation of the RACV and the family music store business. Sutton worked in the fields of telephony, electrical engineering, microscopy, aeronautics, photographic processing, automotive engineering, wireless, and in early elements of television technology. One hindrance to local acceptance during his lifetime was the fact that he worked for much of his career in isolation.



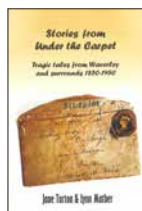
No regard for the Truth. Darren Arnott, Melbourne 2019, pp. i-198, ISBN 9780648679608.

The sub-title of this book provides a neat summary of the text: *friendship and kindness, tragedy and injustice. Rowville's Italian prisoners of war.* That there ever was a camp for Italian prisoners in Melbourne's outer east at the end of World War II has largely been forgotten. That it was the scene of unnecessary tragedy even more so. A sorry story unraveled by Darren Arnott tells of bored camp guards and PoWs, unnecessary brutality, a love doomed by the stupidity of others and the generosity of ordinary people in a time of fear and loathing. With the war already over and awaiting repatriation, a young Italian prisoner from Florence, Rodolfo Bartoli, is shot dead by the commandant of the camp, Captain John Waterston. The circumstances are muddled further by the unsatisfactory investigations and prosecutions that follow. Far from the finest hour in Australia's military history.



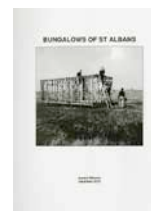
Not For Self But For All. Anne Beggs-Sunter, Art Gallery of Ballarat, Ballarat 2018, pp. 1-254, ISBN 9780648162193.

Ballarat Art Gallery is a real jewel in regional Victoria: the first regional art gallery in Australia and now home to a superb collection of Australian art. This book is a history of the Art Gallery of Ballarat Association. This is a story of both those who drove the foundation of the gallery, notably James Oddie, and those who nurtured and grew its collection, including Margaret Rich, Ron Radford and, briefly, James Mollison. It is also the story of the remarkable collection itself and the building in which it is housed. An interesting additional chapter is devoted to the Eureka flag, perhaps the gallery's most famous exhibit. In 1927 the gallery's Crouch Prize was instituted by Richard Crouch – also an executive member of the RHSV and a regular contributor to the Victorian Historical Magazine – in honour of his late father.



Stories from Under the Carpet. Jane Turton and Lynn Mather, Tablo Publishing, 2019, pp. 1-201, ISBN 9781925880694.

This is an assortment of “tragic tales from Waverley and surrounds 1850-1950” is largely based on genealogical probing into an unrelated set of sad tales from the past. Waverley or thereabouts has for some years been close to the demographic centre of modern greater Melbourne, covered in sprawling eastern suburbia that took off in the 1950s. But until the mid-20th century, it was still out in the bush ... in the beginning, hours on horseback from civilization. There was farming, market gardening and eventually acres of orchards. These tales start with the untimely deaths of a range of characters: some shady, some just humble folk. Their dramas and maladies – often fueled by grog – range through robbery to murder, sickness and accident. These vignettes of a sorrier part of Melbourne's past will be of interest to those with an interest in the slightly offbeat.



Bungalows of St Albans. Joseph Ribarow, Community Research and Management Services, Ascot Vale, 2018, pp. 1-86, ISBN 9780987435378.

This is one in a series of brief local histories of the suburb of St Albans, perched on the elevated basalt plain to Melbourne's west. The story of St Alban's bungalows is one of hope. This was a time when Australia welcomed refugees, these from the desolation of post-war Europe. Many came via Bonegilla or other migrant hostels and they were a varied lot: Poles, Germans, English, Serbians, Maltese, Russians, Italians and the rest. What linked them in the beginning on that inhospitable plain with practically no amenities was a fresh chance, and usually in a simple bungalow to which were added more rooms until they became a home and part of a community. Several of the family stories here have appeared previously elsewhere, but there is much new material and much to celebrate in their achievements.

History Victoria Bookshop

New Books in store for December 2019

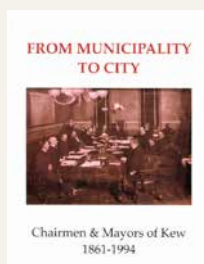


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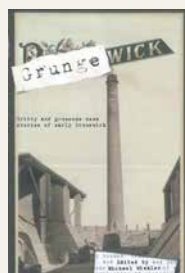
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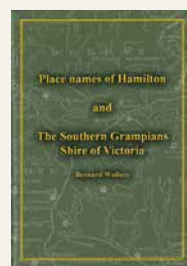
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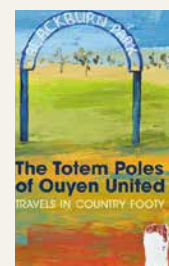
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Ed. Michael Winkler
\$20



Place Names of
Hamilton and the
Southern Grampians
Shire of Victoria

By Bernard Wallace
\$15



Totem Poles
of Ouyen United,
The: travels in country
footy

By Paul Daffey
\$30

See our online catalogue at 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 FEBRUARY 2020 ISSUE
please send details to
office@historyvictoria.org.au
by 8th January 2020.

AUSTRALIAN GARDENS: Spring brings renewal and so too the Victorian branch committee has been renewed and invigorated for our big anniversary year in 2020. Australian Gardens Historical Society turns forty in 2020. Our efforts since 1980 in conservation, advocacy and research could not have been as robust and enduring without the contribution of our members. We are grateful for your continuing support and participation. Grouped under the theme of 'People, Places and Plants' we have planned lectures, walks, day trips and a weekend bus trip as celebratory activities. Further details will be available on the website at <https://www.gardenhistorysociety.org.au/branches/victoria/>

BACCHUS MARSH: One hundred years after the creation of the Avenue of Honour, the Bacchus Marsh RSL has initiated an exciting new project. An art installation, 'The Resting Poppy', will commemorate the service of the four hundred and sixty-four WWI volunteers now known to be associated with the Bacchus Marsh district, thus enhancing and adding to the two hundred and eighty-one names commemorated in the Avenue of Honour. The lives and service of these soldiers are described in the Bacchus Marsh & District Historical Society's publication, *Honour to whom Honour is Due* (2018). The book is available for purchase from the Society. Designed by sculptor Dean Bowen, the bronze sculpture will comprise of scattered petals of a Flanders poppy, the largest standing three metres high. The sculpture will enable people to follow a path of names woven through the petals as they move through the installation, encouraging reflection on the human cost of war. Viewed from the front, the petals come together as a symbol of unity and peace.

BENALLA: A major new exhibition is now on display at the Benalla Costume and Kelly Museum: home of the Benalla Historical Society Inc. Titled 'Suitably Clad', the exhibits demonstrate the great variety of suits that have evolved over the years for both men and women. There are a large number of costumes exhibited, the majority being formal and semi-formal wear. In addition, there are many examples of children's clothing, swimsuits, and even a baby in its 'birthday suit'! There's a costume worn by the Master of the Hunt contrasting with a Formula 1 driver's competition suit.

This exhibition was opened on 25 October 2019 by former Mayor of Benalla, Mr Geoff Oliver OAM. Mr Oliver, together with his father before him and now his son, has been the proprietor of a menswear shop for many years and he entertained Society members with stories from a life selling gentlemen their suits, not only in Benalla, but also in London and even in the mid-Atlantic on the Queen Mary.

BOX HILL: The Association of Eastern Historical Societies has accepted the Committee's offer to host the first meeting in 2020 of fellow members of the Association. This event will take place on Saturday, 22 February 2020.

The host Society provides a guest speaker; in this case our secretary Helen Harris OAM, will speak on the history of women in local government. This will be a timely topic, as next year marks the centenary of election of the first woman Councillor, in November 1920. Helen, a former Councillor herself, is well qualified to speak on the subject, having extensively researched it, and as the author of *The right to vote; the right to stand*.

CAMPERDOWN: Halfway house – Stony Rises Hotel – information needed. Known as the Stony Rises Hotel in past days, this old building stands beside the winding road through the Stony Rises. Busily researching previous owners, publicans, etc. for his eventual book, Rob would like to ask our readers if they have any stories or information about its history. You can email any information to us at camperdowndhs@gmail.com

CARLTON: Interested in local history? Then join us in the Carlton Community History Group and help preserve our past for the future. Are you interested in working on projects such as: 'Researching your own family history as it relates to Carlton', 'Helping to maintain our Facebook page' or 'Publicising the Group and its activities'? Then contact us to see how you can be involved.
Email: cchg@y7mail.com
Website: www.cchg.asn.au

ESSENDON: What a red-letter day Tuesday 22 October 2019 was for the society. After 1,246 days (41 months), members were able to return to the renovated and restored building that had been so badly damaged by fire. We are extremely grateful to all our supporters, in all their capacities. The Moonee Ponds Court House and exhibition 'History Reclaimed' will be open to the public on Saturday 7 December from 2-5pm.

FRIENDS OF CHELTENAHAM AND REGIONAL CEMETERIES: Our latest book: *The Cheltenham Pioneer Cemetery: Where History Rests* is the fifth book published by the 'Friends of Cheltenham and Regional Cemeteries Inc.'. It features over eight hundred names of people from the local community in the index. There is a limited print run of just one hundred copies, each individually numbered. For more information visit our on-line shop. <http://www.focrc.org/shop.htm> For more information about the 'Friends of Cheltenham and Regional Cemeteries' and the work we do visit our site. <http://focrc.org/aboutus.htm>

KEILOR: The society has received a grant for the re-establishment of the prefabricated Police Station. The historic Keilor Plains Police hut will be rebuilt at the Harricks Cottage site in Keilor Park. Built from prefabricated iron, the hut was imported during the 1850s gold rush to form part of the Police Station. After the project is completed, Keilor Historical Society will manage the hut and make it available to the community.

LINTON: Special event - On Sunday 22 March 2020, our Society member Chris Grigg will conduct a guided tour of Linton and surrounds. This will be instead of our March History Night. Chris's family has several generations of connection with Linton, and Chris has an encyclopaedic knowledge of the town's highways, byways, residences and notorious 'characters' of the twentieth century. Put this date in your diary.

MIDDLE PARK: All meetings are at 7:30 pm at the Albert Park Baptist Church Hall, corner Kerferd Road and Richardson Street (entry through office door in Richardson Street) and are followed by supper. Upcoming speakers: Monday 3 February 2020, Steven Haby, Secretary Librarian, Prahran Mechanics' Institute: 'Sparks to St Kilda, trams to the beach and buses through Middle Park: A look at train, tram and bus services through Middle Park since the 1850s'. Monday 6 April 2020, Dr Sophie Couchman: 'Mee How Ah Muoy, Architect'.

MONBULK: Monbulk Historical Society's latest publication, *When Roads Were Tracks, A history of the roads of Monbulk, Kallista, The Patch and Sherbrooke* by Jill A'Vard and Armin Richter won the Local History Project Award at the Victorian Community History Awards in October. 'The names of the roads and tracks are a window into the history of the area and the families that have made it what it is today.' The book also includes the history of the tourist tracks, the tracks throughout Sherbrooke Forest, and brings together a unique collection of historic photographs and maps. *When Roads Were Tracks*, is available through the society's website.

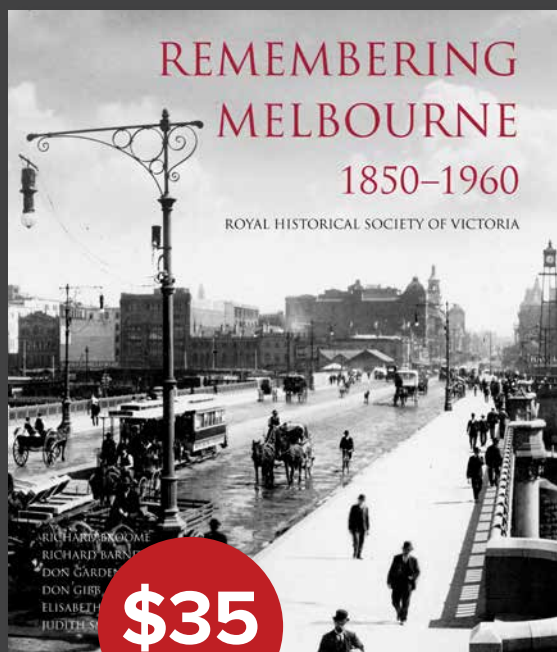
<https://monbulkhistoricalsociety.org.au/>

MOUNT EVELYN: 2020 events include: Working bee at Hardy House, Friday 17 January 2020, 10am-12pm with lunch at Passchendaele Café to follow. Business meeting on Monday 17 February, 7.30pm at Hardy House. Douglas Knox, 'Log Cabins and the Mitchell Tram Tracks' on Saturday 21 March, 1.30pm at Hardy House.

PORT PHILLIP PIONEERS: February 29 is the date for our next meeting, the last Saturday in the month. Do you have a question, a discovery or disappointment to share, anything you think would be interesting? Maybe you would be happy to 'show and tell' some historical item. One suggestion put forward is family history programs for dummies, especially charting the tree. Wesley Hall, St. Andrew's Uniting Church, cnr Burke and Malvern Rds, Gardiner.

WILLIAMSTOWN: Our January 23 speaker will be Shelley Wood, Curator, Williamstown Botanic Gardens. The topic is 'A 160 year journey through the Williamstown Botanic Gardens'. Our meetings are held in the Council Chamber in the Town Hall. Also, please note our hard-working volunteers will be taking a well-earned break from 5 December until 3 February.

RHSV CHRISTMAS GIFT IDEAS



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

OR GIVE A GIFT OF AN RHSV MEMBERSHIP

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.)

