



## ROYAL HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF VICTORIA INC.

239 A'Beckett Street, Melbourne 3000

### RHSV Award of Merit Nomination of Valerie Rohde 7 April 2020

Valerie Rohde first joined the RHSV in 2005 and has been one of our most generous volunteers since 2006.

Valerie's love of history started when she was at school in the Wimmera and has continued all her life. She has researched her family history for over 20 years and is keenly interested in both local history and geography.

Valerie trained as a library technician and her skills were immediately put to good use at the RHSV in administration, cataloguing, shelf-checking and organising the Ephemera Collection.

Valerie commits two days each week to the RHSV and, for over 5 years now, she has been working on a remarkable project to take our unique Pioneers' Register to the world through Trove. The Pioneers' Register is an amalgamation of two call outs that the RHSV did in its early years to gather information on pioneers who arrived in Victoria from 1834 – 1856 and then, later, up until 1900. In the Register there are some 2000+ sheets, each recording a family. Valerie is transcribing the hand-written notes and entering them into our eHive catalogue. However, Valerie is also extending and enhancing the catalogue as she enters the material by adding details of other photographs, manuscripts and letters. Thus creating a wonderfully enriched collection for which she will be thanked by future generations of historians. It is a huge labour of love and needs very good attention to detail and excellent research skills.

Valerie is a quiet achiever forming part of a tight knit group of volunteers who appreciate and love the collection.

We have much pleasure in nominating Valerie Rohde for an Award of Merit in 2020.

Rosemary Cameron  
Executive Officer

Jillian Hiscock  
Collections Manager