



PORT MELBOURNE HISTORICAL AND PRESERVATION SOCIETY INC

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PATRON: LIANA THOMPSON
THE LAST MAYOR OF PORT MELBOURNE
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Award of Merit Nominee Margaret Bride

Our Society nominates our foundation member, Margaret Bride, for the 2022 RHSV Award of Merit. Margaret has devoted her boundless energy, creativity and scholarship to our Society since she was involved in setting it up in 1993. She has served on our Executive Committee for many years as well as representing us on other committees such as the City of Port Phillip Cultural Heritage Reference group where she made many valuable contributions regarding the recognition of places of historical significance within our local area.

Margaret co-authored (with her late husband Graham) "The Borough and its People : Port Melbourne 1839 – 1939" which received a commendation in the Victorian Community History Awards (VCHA) in 2014 and continues to be an invaluable resource of meticulous research into Port's history during that one hundred years.

Margaret was the key researcher in "The History of a Street Precinct" which focused on eighty years of history in the Port Melbourne area bounded by Evans Street, Farrell Street, Williamstown Road and Bridge Street and won the VCHA best Community Research Register and Records project in 2007.

"Postcards from Port" which incorporated nine short films about different important aspects of Port's history was also a key project for Margaret and was awarded the top VCHA Multimedia History Award in 2015.

The Society's 2005 "Women of Port Melbourne" exhibition featured Margaret's story about her mother, Ada Bellion Polson, militant pacifist 1891-1986 and was recorded in the accompanying guide.

Margaret has contributed many articles for the Society's webpage and her most recent work can be found in the "Decade by Decade" pictorial history that is currently featured on our website.

Margaret's creative mind has instigated many projects such as the recent "2021 Now and Then" exhibition which is currently on display at the Port Melbourne Town Hall, "Pop-up" museums for our general meetings and "My Port Melbourne Photographic Competition". During COVID lockdowns when we had to hold online meetings, Margaret displayed her usual inclusiveness by

inviting members to respond to the theme “I wish I had been there” for one meeting and, in contrast, to “I was there when..” at our 2020 AGM.

Margaret has been sought out as a speaker in many settings including speaking about Port’s history to students at the Albert Park Secondary College, presenting information about the life of the militant suffragette, Jennie Baines, on International Women’s Day 2018 at the Emerald Hill Library and History Centre (EHL & HC) as well as co-presenting with Janet Bolitho their research findings from the “Port Melbourne Mapping Project” at the University of the Third Age, the Middle Park History Group and the EHL & HC.

Margaret Bride’s contribution to our Society and the community at large is outstanding and we believe that she thoroughly deserves to be recognised with the RHSV Award of Merit.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Suzanne Leong".

Sue Leong
President

Port Melbourne Historical & Preservation Society
March 2022