



## PORT MELBOURNE HISTORICAL AND PRESERVATION SOCIETY INC

ABN 67 050 276 976

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PATRON: LIANA THOMPSON  
THE LAST MAYOR OF PORT MELBOURNE  
[www.pmhps.org.au](http://www.pmhps.org.au)

27 June 2023

### **David Thompson AWARD OF MERIT NOMINATION**

Our Society nominates our foundation member, David Thompson, for the 2023 RHSV Award of Merit. David joined our Society during its first year of operation and has contributed to a myriad of projects ever since. He has held office as President and Treasurer. As a member of our Executive, he distinguished himself as a wise and measured leader with meticulous work in whatever tasks he was involved in. He has been an inspiration to everyone who has worked with him.

David's background in information technology has meant that he has shared his expertise in so many ways with us. Currently, he collaboratively oversees our website and keeps our members up-to-date with our newsletters and eBulletins. He looks after our Facebook page and deals with any queries or comments that are lodged in this page and via our website.

David has always been strongly motivated to share our Society's excellent archival collection with a wider audience and his most recent contribution has been to initiate the transfer of our archival collection into the Victorian Collections website. This was a huge task with more than 6,600 items from our existing digital catalogue needing to be individually transferred. During our pandemic lockdowns, David worked tirelessly and alone to complete the initial entries which were virtually an audit of every catalogue entry made since the commencement of the collection in 1993.

Over the years, David has been constantly involved with the creation of our exhibitions and displays, our participation in festivals, fundraising, giving lectures, doing research, creating sound archives and he has taken numerous photographs recording our Society's activities and many places of interest around Port. He was a member of the research team that produced "The History of a Street Precinct" which focused on eighty years of history in the 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. In 2015, he presented "An Unfinished Tribute", which involved conserving the letters and notes from families of Port Melbourne's Nott Street Primary School old boys who served in WW1. These had been discovered inside the Nott Street honour board. His work on the Port Melbourne WW1 Centenary Project earned a 2015 VCHA commendation.

David's involvement within our Society and in the wider community is characterised by his patience and respectful approach towards others. He has a strong sense of the importance of the integrity of data and, with the gentlest humour, has workshopped people on the importance of accuracy and consistency in recording information.

David Thompson's contribution to our Society and the community at large is outstanding and we believe that he thoroughly deserves to be recognised with the RHSV Award of Merit.

Nominated by Sue Leong  
President, Port Melbourne Historical & Preservation Society