



Royal Historical Society of Victoria

103rd

ANNUAL REPORT 2012



The images illustrating this year's Annual Report are taken from two exhibitions held at the RHSV during 2012 and a donation:

- The Spirit of the Time
- Melbourne Theatres in Transition
- A donation of glass slides from the first of two donations of MacPherson Robertson material

Cover:

Sarah Bernhardt, actor, c. 1908

Rotary Photo Co., Ltd., London | E.C. Reutunger, Paris. 228 A.

Lillian Creswell Collection : RHSV : PC-2358

The RHSV is a community organisation committed to collecting, researching and sharing an understanding of the history of Victoria.

Membership of the RHSV is open to all. Anyone with an interest in history is welcome to join, including libraries, schools, universities, corporations and local municipalities.

Royal Historical Society of Victoria Incorporated

Founded in Melbourne on 21 May 1909

With which is incorporated

The Victorian Branch of the Royal Geographical Society
of Australasia

Address: 239 A'Beckett Street,
Melbourne, Vic. 3000

Tel: (03) 9326 9288

Fax: (03) 9326 9477

Web: www.historyvictoria.org.au

Email: office@historyvictoria.org.au



The RHSV thanks the continued support of
Arts Victoria



ANNUAL REPORT

2012

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*Visit of Royal Geographical Society to The Hermitage, Narbethong, 1895 – photo includes: A C Macdonald, Ferdinand von Mueller, Commander Crawford Atchison Denman Pasco, Professor Kernot, Dr Bride, Commander Springthorp, Mrs Springthorp, Miss Joan Torrance, Miss Marie Torrance
RHSV Collection: S-215-004*

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The RHSV has reached what could be the most exciting turning point in its century-plus history. In a videocast lecture I gave in 2011 at the State Library of Victoria I described 'Storming the Barricades – the Family History Revolution'. In essence we are talking about democratising the research, writing and publication of history. The internet, digitising of library and archive collections, the new media are all transforming the way history is done – and anyone can do it. Professional trained historians will always have their role as guides, interpreters, detectives, enthusiasts but they will no longer be gods, telling us what happened and why. The RHSV has been unique in this state as a real bridge between academic and non-academic historians, between amateurs and professionals, between antiquarians and broad-ranging philosophers, so we are perfectly placed to assist in this transformation.

We at the RHSV have the opportunity to harness the

enthusiasm, to ensure better communication between the hundreds of special interest, regional and local historical societies, to continue lifting the standards of historical research, and of the care, cataloguing and digitising of collections, to help the community innovate and create. For the past four years we have been exploring the concept of developing a History House in the City of Melbourne, serving all Victorians, in a partnership with the Genealogical Society of Victoria with its large individual membership base. Our two groups, with differing emphases, make a perfect community combination.

Arts Victoria has offered its support in principle to this concept.

Our preferred option is to have the Victorian Government vest in us the custodianship of the whole of 239 A'Beckett Street (the Drill Hall) - the building we have occupied since 2000 - and we would adapt the building to accommodate the

GSV along with a number of smaller historical organisations. This is an ambitious plan as the building and its facilities need upgrading. It is remarkably intact, inside and out, and we are ideal tenants for such a heritage-listed building perfectly located in the historic Flagstaff Gardens precinct of the city which is now a magnet for tourism and urban residential development. Renovation of this loved building would enhance the historic nature of this precinct (with the Old Mint, the King Street bluestone warehouses, St James' Old Cathedral, the Dudley Street terraces including the birthplace of Sir John Monash, the Queen Victoria Market and of course the Flagstaff Gardens themselves, a burial site). The potential for development of History House as a major Melbourne tourist hub is considerable.

We have been making sustained efforts to make this case to the government while exploring other suitable long-term accommodation options, including with the Lord

Mayor and City of Melbourne. The RHSV has long depended on government support, in kind, through provision of premises, to house our unique collection of Victorian history resources and allow public access. We could not operate without such support. Important for the previous century, it is all the more essential now.

The burgeoning interest in Victoria's history manifests itself in ways. In November 2012 we held a milestone exhibition and conference to mark the 50th anniversary of *A History of Brighton* by Professor Weston Bate (a former president of the RHSV, and benefactor). Bate's history helped create a local history boom in the 1960s and 70s. Speakers at the conference noted that before Bate and Geoffrey Blainey (also a Fellow of the RHSV), local history in Victoria had followed traditional ways. The conference heard how the RHSV led in promoting new ways of writing and presenting local history. We continue this tradition of innovation today with collaborative creative projects using DVDs, wiki systems, mobile applications, social media, crowdsourcing as well as beautiful books. Several of the conference papers will be found in the June 2013 issue of the *Victorian Historical Journal*, underwritten for the first time by a generous donation from the trustees of the Edward Wilson Trust in what we hope will be a continuing association.

We can fairly say that without the RHSV the extraordinarily successful Victorian Community History Awards would not exist. Our Society was instrumental in creating the Awards; we protected them when they were under threat; we now present them professionally in partnership with the Public Record Office Victoria with funding assured for the next two years. Through the agency of PROV, the National Gallery of Victoria kindly made the Great Hall available to us for the presentation ceremony

in October which was a chance to congratulate not just the winners but all entrants. For the second successive year the RHSV was fortunate to obtain the services of Janice Haynes as project officer for the awards. Over their fourteen-year lifetime the VCH Awards have stimulated innovative ways of writing and presenting history. They have turned ordinary people into writers and communicators. They have shown that creativity is not only for a trained elite.

Four years ago, with support from the Vera Moore Foundation, we created History Week, which adds to a calendar of other heritage events but places the emphasis particularly on the resources of local historical societies. We have strong links with the History Teachers' Association of Victoria to develop better ways of allowing our children to discover a richer understanding of their legacy. We are making great partnerships with a range of like-minded bodies.

Victoria's history subtly infiltrates our culture. A host of popular, intelligent and entertaining television programmes have been drawing on it including *Underbelly*, *Miss Fisher Murder Mysteries*, *The Doctor Blake Mysteries*, *Who do you think you are?* *Who's been sleeping in my house?* As the centenary of World War I and the Gallipoli landing approaches, the appetite for historical information is growing. Researchers realise that real expertise is local expertise. Central institutions – the PROV, the State Library, Museum Victoria, Australian War Memorial – all are crucial but to get the detail and the local memory we rely on local knowledge. That's what the RHSV is all about as the hub organisation for historical societies in this state.

We encourage high standards and good communication through our publication programme. Our flagship *Journal* is the only magazine devoted to Victoria's history and is one of the longest-running periodicals in Victoria: its first

issue appeared in 1911, and we are now placing its back issues online, accessible to all through the internet. The *Journal* and our newsletter *History News* offer notices of almost all local history publications – more than 160 were entered into last year's awards. These, including many really important books (some fine contributions to our literature), are consistently overlooked by the mainstream press and the Australian Book Review. This significant part of Victoria's artistic and cultural life would simply be sidelined and neglected without the RHSV and the Victorian Community History Awards.

The Journal – non political, non ideological but allowing a variety of readable, well-researched views – was a pioneer a century ago in recognising the richness of our indigenous history. It offers a showcase for a myriad of Victoria's stories – those of immigrants, ethnic groups, heroes and villains, men and women, industry, agriculture, education, gardens, gold, suburbia, country towns... the list goes on.

Our recently redesigned web page has stimulated communication and it gives access to podcasts of lectures and conferences. The RHSV was a pioneer in internet networking between historical societies, but the technology evolves rapidly. In this respect we were particularly delighted during 2012 to welcome our new Local History Librarian, Jason Odering, to our small paid staff. Jason's library qualifications and his enthusiasm for the new technology are already showing their value.

The miracle is that everything that the RHSV achieves is done on a shoestring budget. Our paid workforce consists of less than three effective full-time staff relying on bare minimum technology. We would dearly like to strengthen this workforce and upgrade our hours to give us the chance to open our doors to visitors on the weekends.

Volunteers help us with essential fundraising. Our annual book sale this year raised more than \$8000. Special mention must be made of the sale organiser, John Rose, and his team of dedicated helpers.

For the past several years the RHSV has had the benefit of recurrent funding from the State Government, through Arts Victoria, and to a much lesser degree from the Federal Government through its 'Grants to Voluntary Environment, Sustainability and Heritage Organisations'. These funds have allowed us to run our programme of exhibitions and outreach, and to encourage the sorts of creativity I mentioned earlier. Each three years Arts Victoria asks us to submit a business plan to explain in detail our goals and operations and to outline future directions. In late 2012 we began working on the next Business Plan. In such documents we are asked to define our 'Market', but we at the RHSV say that we think less in terms of Market than of Service. We don't have 'Competitors': instead we have Collaborators.

Maybe we try to do too much: the list in this Plan of activities and initiatives we undertake is immense, despite constant efforts to prioritise. Our expenditure is parsimonious and targeted, subsidised by donations in kind. It is essential that the RHSV continues to attract an appropriate level of community support from the Government of Victoria. The government represents the community and reflects its values. Arts Victoria support for the RHSV is a tangible way of showing that the Government recognises and cares about the community-building nature of the work we do as volunteers as well as the creativity we foster. After natural disasters – for example fire at Marysville, floods at Charlton – the community turns to its historical societies to reassert its identity. A small local historical society at Noojee initiates an ambitious heritage plan to stimulate tourism and create jobs in its town, and open the horizons of its local

school children. We could offer dozens of such quiet examples of community benefit that flow through our network of historical societies.

Work to create this Business Plan is another example of how we have to use our limited resources to the best advantage. We simply cannot afford external consultants to do this work for us. We have used it as a planning tool to help our Council – our volunteer board of management – to take stock of our present situation and position ourselves for what should be an exciting future. Now it is up to the Government of Victoria to play its part.

A word on what we accomplished during 2012. Two great events book-ended the year. The Fifty Years of Local History (since Brighton 1962) commemoration involved an exhibition, conference – including the revival of the RHSV's traditional Augustus Wolskel Lecture, delivered this year by Emeritus Professor Graeme Davison – and a special dinner at the Savage Club to honour Weston Bate, with Michael Cathcart as master of ceremonies. We called it all a 'West Fest'. The exhibition was officially opened by Peter Hiscock, former director of Sovereign Hill, Ballarat, and all of the events were filled to capacity. In February 2012 we organised and hosted a unique occasion, dubbed Hugh's Do, in recognition of a continuing life-time contribution as researcher, writer and publisher to Australian (and particularly Victorian) folklore, history, folk music and the teaching of history by a former vice-president of the Society, Hugh Anderson. It was timed, too, to mark Hugh's 85th birthday and to launch his latest publication, complete with recording, of *Two Axe Mac: the story of Simon McDonald*. Both the West Fest and Hugh's Do events reminded us of the RHSV's unique position, linking the history movement today with that of previous decades.

Monthly lectures in 2012 without fail presented first-rate speakers and attracted strong audiences. Hilary McPhee spoke in March on the

diaries of film maker Tim Burstall. Dr Peter Yule was special guest at the Annual General Meeting and lectured on 'the controversial and mysterious life of W.L. Baillieu', the subject of his major new biography. Susan Priestley, former president of this Society, gave the AGL Shaw Lecture on her new biography of Henrietta Dugdale. This is the event we run annually in June with the C.J. La Trobe Society. July saw the annual combined lecture with the Professional Historians Association to hear something of the work of our 'emerging historians': Amanda Lourie and Rebecca Carland each presented a short lecture with the history of science as their uniting theme. That theme continued in October when we combined with the Royal Society of Victoria to hear an absorbing lecture by Prof. Stephen Cordner and lawyer Fiona Leahy on combining science and historical research to solve the mysteries surrounding the human remains of Ned Kelly. Prof. John Hirst was an appropriate lecturer for Melbourne Day in August. He discussed the fortunes of the project to index Melbourne's former *Argus* newspaper and explored the contrasts between expert indexing by humans compared with electronic searching now made possible by digitisation projects such as the National Library's Trove. Close to Armistice Day, historian Dr Ross McMullin spoke movingly on his important new book *Farewell, Dear People: biographies of Australia's Lost Generation*.

Our exhibitions at the RHSV library in the Drill Hall were first 'The Spirit of the Time', showcasing the treasures of our collection and reproduced in our award-winning Address Book. Dr Mimi Colligan was guest curator of our winter exhibition 'Melbourne Theatres in Transition', one of the most popular in recent years. Mimi also ran several very well-attended lunchtime talks on the topic. A small exhibition in July displayed 'Extraordinary Books from Ordinary People', some of the book treasures from our library, to

coincide with a lecture I gave at the RHSV as part of Melbourne Rare Book. The final major exhibition of the year was the one already described on Fifty Years Since Brighton. We were grateful to the Brighton Historical Society for their help in letting us display many unique items from their collection.

At the 2012 Annual General Meeting we elected with acclaim Dr Judith Smart as a Fellow of the RHSV. Judy is an Adjunct Professor at RMIT University and has long played an invaluable role in continually raising the standards of the *Victorian Historical Journal*. In bestowing Awards of Merit, it was fitting that we could recognise the extraordinary service to the RHSV itself by John Rose, David Thompson and Ruth Permezel, outstanding volunteers over the past several years. Awards of Merit were also richly deserved by Robyn Doble (Box Hill), John Jennings (Seymour and District) and Dione McIntyre (Kew Historical Society).

Changes on Council during 2012 saw the retirement of former vice president, Dr Simon Smith and the honorary treasurer John Hulskamp. I have paid tribute on previous occasions to Simon, especially for his energy, enthusiasm and attention to detail. The Society was grateful to John for helping us out when we were in urgent need of a new treasurer some years ago. We thank them both for their contribution. We were sorry to farewell Jenny Coates from the Council with her expertise in family history. I have on earlier occasions thanked Kay Craddock for her particular contribution to our deliberations and we thank her for her continuing generous support of the RHSV.

We were delighted by the return to council of two former vice presidents: Dr Robert Barnes has become our new honorary treasurer and Joan Hunt has returned to Council after extending her already considerable historical skills in England. RHSV members will be

aware that Glen Turnbull, one of our council members, sustained serious injuries in a car accident during 2012. Glen and his wife Catherine have expressed gratitude to friends and well-wishers though the RHSV as he continues a long rehabilitation, and he hopes to be able to return to Council duties within the next year. At the end of the year the expertise of our Council was strengthened considerably when eminent historian Professor Richard Broome and eminent librarian Elisabeth Jackson agreed to be co-opted to casual vacancies, effective from the start of 2013. Richard has generously agreed to succeed Don Gibb who for many years has chaired with accomplishment the RHSV Publications Committee.

It is no mere polite formality to thank our two mainstays at the RHSV, Kate Prinsley (Executive Officer) and Gerardine Horgan (Office Manager) who deal with continuous and varied demands made on this busy organisation.

The RHSV lost several extraordinary benefactors and contributors during the year. In our last Annual Report we noted the death at the end of 2011 of the wonderful Barbara Nixon. During 2012 the great Australian historian Alan Shaw died at the age of 96. Tributes to AGL and his career were featured in the June 2012 *Victorian Historical Journal*. We also lost our former honorary treasurer and loyal supporter Dr Rod Benjamin during the year. Rod is credited with guiding our finances through some difficult periods and was also noted as a historian of the insurance industry. An obituary appears in the November 2012 *Journal*. And the RHSV was one of dozens of Australian charities and cultural organisations to share in the generosity of donation and spirit embodied in Dame Elisabeth Murdoch who died in December. Taking a look at those names and the knowledge, service and generosity they possessed, the RHSV has clearly suffered a great collective loss, and we salute their lives and example.

Finally it will be time for me to step aside as president at the next Annual General Meeting after four years in the position. All presidents have their use-by date and I am sure the RHSV will benefit from new perspectives from the chair. On three occasions during the past four years I was overseas, six months in all, which placed additional burden on vice president Prof Bill Russell, who acted as chair in my absence, and on co-vice president Lenore Frost. Your RHSV Councillors all contribute time and expertise to the Society and to the cause of history and I am grateful to all who have served on the Council. In addition to those already mentioned, I wish to record my appreciation of the sustained work by the honorary secretary, Carole Woods, who has contributed to the work of the RHSV and the cause of history in so many ways. Assoc. Prof. Don Garden continued to serve the history movement superbly in his capacity as president of the Federation of Australian Historical Societies until mid 2012 and continues on our Council. Historian Jane Carolan has been as a Council member an engaged and dedicated contributor to our deliberations and to our events.

Above all I am inspired by local enthusiasm that keeps our historical societies alive and thriving. I've been able to visit just some of our 330 affiliated societies but it is the same wherever I have gone. Whether it was Stratford or Castlemaine, the police or the aviation restoration group, whether it was Tatura, Shepparton, Noojee or my local Eltham and District Historical Society, I see the same dedication to making our history not just commemorative and decorative but, more importantly, relevant to the present and the future.

Andrew Lemon

President



Victoria's first load of Korumburra coal, 28 October 1892. F Haar, photographer. RHSV Collection: R-27

EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

The RHSV serves all Victorians with an interest in the history of Victoria. Although the RHSV is a membership organisation its programs, collections and advocacy are available to all.

RHSV President, Dr Andrew Lemon writes extensively about our program so this Executive Report highlights activities that provide the infrastructure to our annual program.

Throughout 2012 the RHSV worked to improve its services. The introduction of *Paypal* and *Trybooking* brought enormous benefits to members. Event bookings and subscriptions could be made online, our online bookshop increased its efficiency, and research inquiries could be made via the website.

The new website, launched at the end of 2011 to commemorate the RHSV's 100 years of publishing, provided a means to keep members up to date with RHSV exhibitions, podcasts, meetings

and publications. Our Events Calendar created a service for other groups and organisations in local history to promote their activities. The redesign of our website was made possible with funds from the Telematics Trust.

In July we launched our Forums which again, accessible to all, provide a wonderful service to the local history community in the areas of Research, Cataloguing, General Inquiries and specifically for volunteers in historical societies. Anecdotally we know the Research Forum has generated contact between researchers working in similar areas.

We also experimented with social media developing a twitter strategy and facebook. We were surprised by the numbers following our monthly anniversaries and photos. John Adams is thanked for his diligent research.

Our online catalogues were regularly updated with access open to all.

Our "face to face" services similarly were improved. New members

received welcome packs and tours of the RHSV; and our regular Speakers Meetings became more informal and friendly with the innovation of "drinks" in the gallery space before meetings. By the end of the year we felt we had recreated the warmth of a Society in a modern setting.

In 2012, the RHSV welcomed many new volunteers who continue to provide the outstanding individual attention and service for which the RHSV is famous for, when researchers visit our rooms.

Lenore Frost, Convenor of the History Victoria Support Group, writes in this Annual Report about the seminars and training provided for volunteers in historical societies. In addition the RHSV provides the valuable service of bulk insurance. Throughout 2012 we improved our customer service, provided more information and phone advice for historical societies resulting in an increase in Societies taking up our insurance scheme.

One of our flagship programs is *History Week* – held on the last

week of October. We thank the Vera Moore Foundation for its support. All historical societies and partner supporters such as PROV, Museum of Victoria and the Supreme Court are invited to take part in this week long promotion of history in this state. Again this year we were able to improve our delivery of *History Week* by introducing a self- managed but moderated Event Calendar which in 2012 showcased nearly 300 events. Our member historical societies have advised us that some of the benefits of being involved in *History Week* were increased attendance, increased profile throughout the state and usually an increase in research enquiries. Again this year we were able to promote banner grants.

Our commercial research – so essential to our income – was efficiently and promptly handled by a new team of volunteers. Brigid Griffin, Carissa Goudy, Cassie

Mackie, Rachel Harding, Jeremy Pascoe, John and Sandra Torpey are deeply thanked for their expertise.

The RHSV provides a mentoring role. In 2012 we accepted three secondary school students for work experience, one library student and two Masters students from Deakin University. The RHSV awards an undergraduate prize for Australian History at La Trobe University and the 2012 winner was Emily de Rongo.

As the President’s report illustrated our activities are broad. The RHSV program could not be undertaken without the support of our administrative team of Norma Mullins, Brian Watson, Liz Bath and Val Rohde. Most people who volunteer at an historical society anticipate that they will work with collections – we thank this team for their enduring enthusiasm to assist with “office work”.

Recently the RHSV began to review and plan for the period 2014 – 2016. Using a formula supplied by Arts Victoria we calculated the hours undertaken by volunteers to present programs, manage collections and support historical societies represent the equivalent to 25 full time employees.

The RHSV infrastructure is underpinned by this precious resource – and we thank all of them most sincerely.

Kate Prinsley

Executive Officer



The Mordialloc-Cheltenham-Brighton bus, with J. McCaffrey driving, c. 1880

RHSV Collection : PH-120179



Panoramic view of Exhibition Street, Melbourne looking north; showing Her Majesty's Theatre [left], c. 1890 RHSV Collection :A-403.002

HISTORY VICTORIA SUPPORT GROUP'S REPORT

The role of the History Victoria Support group is to support the activities of our 330 affiliated societies in practical ways. The planning committee, consisting of local history practitioners, meets annually to plan the events for the coming year, and to discuss projects that are to be undertaken.

Times move on and sadly the electronic networking system "My Connected Community (mc2)", provided by the State Library of Victoria, was withdrawn at the end of June 2012. The HVSG had used mc2 successfully for many years as a way of keeping in touch with its network of affiliated societies. It was a great loss when it was retired after many years of stout service to the local history community. In July we replaced mc2 with a new Forum and Calendar of Events, which although it does not have the same facility as mc2, does keep local history networks in touch. By Christmas 2012 there were about 160 subscribers to the forums, and this continues to grow.

Two seminars and the RHSV conference were all that could be fitted into such a busy year. The first planned seminar of the year was "Standing your Ground", looking at understanding leases, occupancy agreements, new opportunities for old buildings and the importance of keeping excellent records for the management of your building. The second seminar, held in August called "Working with Family History Groups" looked at practical ways of developing partnerships with Family History and Genealogy groups.

The annual cycle in the local history calendar is incredibly busy; it was felt that it was too crowded to present both a seminar and a conference towards the end of the year. As the conference examined the growth of local history in Victoria the HVSG deferred another seminar in favour of local history practitioners being able to attend the conference.

A continuing aspect of the work of the RHSV is to provide advice for our affiliated societies. We are

frequently contacted by groups wishing to establish a society. Advice is provided by the individuals who make up the HVSG, with the online *Guide to Managing Historical Societies* continuing to be a useful tool as a reference.

A new Local History Librarian, Jason Odering, was appointed in August, whose responsibilities include assistance for the HVSG, and affiliated societies, in particular help with cataloguing problems.

"Around the societies", published in each issue of *History News* remains a popular service to our affiliated societies, and in 2012 we provided the new Calendar of Events on our website as an additional resource for societies. This automatically feeds through up-coming events to the front page of the RHSV website.

A presentation on "Family History Treasure Trove at the RHSV" was made by me at the GSV in March. Kate Prinsley, Jenny Coates and myself attended the GSV "Country Groups" annual meeting in April 2012 to discuss ways in which

RHSV and family history groups could co-operate. In September 2012 the same three, with the addition of Lorraine James, attended the South Eastern Historical Association Family and Local History Expo at Cranbourne.

Each year HVSG provides assistance with assessing applications for the Holsworth Heritage Trust grants which help with printing costs for regional local histories. The ANZ Trustees in the past have received copies of local histories in acquittal of the grants, which they then pass on to our collection. During 2012 we conducted an audit of acquittals of that grant, and found that there were quite a few that had never been acquitted. We are contacting those groups in an effort to have those grants resolved. Discussions have been held with the ANZ Trustees and Carol Holsworth about the management of the grants, and it has been agreed that in future the grants will be completely administered by the RHSV, with an administration fee.

The twelve groups which received grants in 2012 were: Avenel Neighbourhood House, Broadford and District Historical Society Inc, Derrinallum & Lismore Community Association Inc, Edenhope & District Historical Society, Harrow Bush Nursing Centre Inc, Horsham Historical Society, Meredith History Interest Group, Mount Rouse & District Historical Society Inc, Newstead & District Historical Society, Polio Network Victoria (Independence Australia), Terang & District Historical Society Inc, and Woodend and District Heritage Society Inc.

As part of History Week, part of the funding provided by the Vera Moore Foundation was used to provide grants for banners for our affiliated societies.

The Victorian Local History Database now contains 38,000

records. Any group affiliated with the RHSV can apply to have their cataloguing records for information items included in this database.

The members of the Committee appointed after the May 2012 AGM were: Lenore Frost (Convenor), Larina Strauch (Kyneton), Bernard Bolch (Walhalla), Jane Nigro (Malvern), Jeff Starkey (Euroa), Alleyne Hockley (Castlemaine), Judy Richards (Stratford), Jenny Coates (RHSV council nominee), Local History Librarian (vacant) and Kate Prinsley (*ex officio*). The annual HVSG planning meeting was held in August and topics for seminars discussed, and dates set. Jenny Coates also represented the RHSV on the City of Greater Dandenong

Cultural and Heritage Collections committee.

It is my great pleasure to thank, on behalf of the RHSV Council and members of our affiliated societies, the members mentioned in this report for their work with the HVSG, and through that committee, the local history movement in Victoria.

Lenore Frost

Convenor,
History Victoria Support Group



Federal Coffee Palace, corner Collins and King Streets, Melbourne, c. 1880 RHSV Collection :A-299



MacRobertson Chocolates' show wagon, possibly decorated for the visit of the American 'White Fleet' in 1908. Macpherson Robertson Collection: RHSV

PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE'S REPORT

The Publications Committee is responsible to Council for the management of the Society's publications. Its members bring considerable expertise and experience about Victorian history and work hard to ensure the quality and attractiveness of RHSV publications. Its major activity continues to be the preparation and printing of the *Victorian Historical Journal*. Marie Clark was the contents editor for the two journals produced in 2012 and she was ably assisted by Judith Smart, the former editor, and Kate Jones in desktop production. Marie resigned at the end of 2012, and we thank her for completing a most onerous task in ways that encouraged contributors and produced quality journals. The Committee has moved to appoint a new editor who will take over the role in the production of the second issue for 2013. We welcome the new editor, Marilyn Bowler, who brings wide experience to the role.

The Committee has welcomed Richard Broome who has recently joined Council and has accepted the

long unfilled position of Convenor. Richard will be well-known to members for his considerable contribution to Victorian history through publications including *Aboriginal Victorians*, *Arriving*, and his local history of Coburg. He has recently edited *Australian Historical Studies* and has been an inspiring teacher at La Trobe University.

The Committee was saddened by the death of AGL Shaw, a stalwart over many years. His contributions to the RHSV and Victorian history generally were acknowledged by the Society at a special function in November 2011, recorded in the June *Journal*. This issue also carried an obituary for Barbara Nixon, another great supporter of the Committee. The November issue acknowledged the loss of Rod Benjamin, past Treasurer and historian.

The *Victorian Historical Journal* is published twice a year in June and November. Its articles are peer reviewed. It also carries a section of Historical Notes that encourages

excellent historical research without all of the professional characteristics required for articles. The Committee is pleased that the *Journal* continues to attract a wide range of articles of interest to students and readers of Victorian history.

The June 2012 issue, Volume 83 No. 1 covered a diverse range of topics: an instructive examination of Victorian defences between 1851 and 1945; a meticulous discussion of evidence about the Thomas Clark painting entitled *The Mahogany Ship* that concludes that it was most probably the *Sally Ann* wrecked in 1844; a study of the work of Janet Lady Clarke in dealing with a crisis at the Women's Hospital in 1902; a thorough inquiry into the location of the scenes in two of Jane Cannan's drawings held by the RHSV; and a superb study of the use of Buchan's black marble. As noted above it also contains tributes to AGL Shaw and Barbara Nixon.

The November 2012 issue, Volume 83 No. 2 carried articles about James Oddie and English artist E

Goodwyn Lewis, early herbalist/ pharmacists Sarah and Constance Broyer, a Henty society wedding in 1892, village communities and the 1890s and the 1890s depression, Australian nursing administration in World War 1, and a disturbing case of the impact of assimilation policies in Gippsland in the 1960s. The historical notes section comprised an item that sorts out details of the Barrys that owned stables in Bayswater (not Redmond but his sons); another that deals with Clarice Beckett and her disabled and institutionalized brother; and a piece that adds to the ‘experience’ of the Queen Victoria Hospital.

The Publications Committee actively seeks funding for the journal and was pleased to receive a grant from the Edward Wilson Trust that has enabled the production of the November 2012 issue and the June issue of 2013 that will carry articles focusing on the media in part acknowledgement of Wilson’s involvement with the Melbourne *Argus* in the mid-19th century.

The publication of the transcripts

of Judge Willis’s court notebooks has long been on the Committee’s agenda but it is yet to be brought to fruition. Hopefully, progress will be reported next year.

As noted in the last report, the digitization of all the copies of the *VHJ* and its earlier counterpart, the *Victorian Historical Magazine* has been completed by the State Library. The Committee has been involved in locating more than 700 contributors to the *Journal* since 1954. The task of establishing a register and of gaining contributors’ copyright clearances will get underway in 2013. The Committee is delighted that this long and often frustrating project that is so significant in extending both the *Journal*’s reach and the Society’s importance in the advancement of Victorian history will soon be complete.

Another project of the Publications Committee has been the Society’s *Address Book*. It was with delight that we learned it had been awarded first prize in the Museums Australia Multimedia and Publication Design Awards 2012 in the corporate

category. The *Address Book* serves as a history of the Society, a showcase for some of our treasures and a fundraiser for the RHSV and historical societies.

Finally, as Convenor 2001-09 and acting Convenor 2011-12, I want to record my gratitude to the Committee for their commitment, expertise, tolerance and good humour during this time. I know that this will continue under the new Convenor, Richard Broome.

Don Gibb

Acting Convenor,
Publications Committee



de Havilland DH.50 single-engined biplane bearing MacRobertson ‘Old Gold’ Chocolates signage, c. 1925

Macpherson Robertson Collection : RHSV



Boys on deck of training ship (probably the HMS Nelson), Port Phillip Bay, c. 1875
RHSV Collection :AL001-0019

THE COLLECTIONS COMMITTEE'S REPORT

The RHSV's first exhibition of 2012, February – April, was *The Spirit of the Time*. Based on the collections of the RHSV, the exhibition examined the RHSV's early collecting patterns. It posed the questions: 'how do we maintain the passion – how do we capture "The Spirit of the Time"?' – the subject raised in 1909 by William John Hughston, one of the RHSV's founders. The exhibition supported the launch of the *RHSV Address Book*, a wonderful souvenir of the RHSV collection. The Foreword gives a brief history of the RHSV. The exhibition was curated by members of Address Book Team (chaired by Don Gibb), who prepared well-researched and detailed captions. Images and objects were included to tell the story of Victoria and display the wealth of the RHSV collections: maps, drawings, postcards, etchings, photographs and manuscripts. The *RHSV Address Book* was awarded first prize in Museums Australia Multimedia and Publication Design Awards 2012.

The second exhibition, June – August, was *Melbourne Theatres in Transition - 1840s to 1940s*. Curated by Dr Mimi Colligan, member, RHSV Fellow and theatre specialist, the exhibition surveyed the history of Melbourne Theatres; some of the personalities involved, and the changes that occurred with the rise of cinema during the period of the two world wars. The exhibition drew on the collections of the RHSV, the archives of The Athenaeum Library, the holdings of State Library of Victoria and it was enriched by privately owned material. A benefit of the exhibition was that it enabled the Society to exhibit examples of theatrical postcards taken from the RHSV Lillian Creswell Collection, donated by the late Keith Davis. Dr Colligan's floor talks were extremely popular with many visitors enthralled by Mimi's extensive knowledge and entertaining presentations. The exhibition was a particularly well attended by architecture enthusiasts during "Melbourne Open House" weekend.

As a sidebar to *Melbourne Rare Book Week* in July 2012, a smaller exhibition was presented called *Extraordinary Books from Ordinary People* which looked at our rare books which had been donated by 'ordinary people'. The RHSV's library holds some very precious and significant books, many bearing Fergusson reference. The exhibition was curated by Guy Featherstone. The Society's President, Andrew Lemon presented a lunchtime talk associated with this exhibition. The books represented over three centuries of publishing from 1787 to 1954. Titles included *Exposition of various admitted modern theories, both philosophical and mythological* (1844) by Henry Melville – one of only six copies saved from destruction by the author, and *Explorations in Australia* (1875) by Sir John Forrest – a copy with the signature of Harry (Breaker) Marrant on the front flyleaf.

The final exhibition for the year *Growing History's Grass*

Roots was launched to coincide with the RHSV's Conference in November – *Celebrating 50 Years of local history in Victoria*. The exhibition charted key moments in the evolution of this discipline from the appointment of Manning Clark at the University of Melbourne, 1946 (to teach the nation's first full year course in Australian history) to the significant conferences held in the 1960s, and the great push to establish frameworks for the growth of sharing knowledge and experience. Described as "A Creative Decade", the 1960s were a period of prodigious talent and publishing – a period when universities were keen supporters of local history. A large part of the exhibition was an examination of the innovative techniques used in researching and writing *A History of Brighton* (Bate, 1960) – a ground breaking move away from 'scissors and paste' history to interpreted source material and placing local communities in a wider context. The exhibition was curated by Professor Weston Bate. Remarkable assistance was provided by the Brighton Historical Society, which lent many of the wonderful exhibits. Other support was provided by Kingston and Bayside Councils, Sovereign Hill and the State Library of Victoria.

Typically, the mounting of an exhibition requires an enormous input from the RHSV Exhibition Team. In 2012, the team was jointly led by Richard Barnden and David Thompson. Daisy Searls brings flair and expertise to the design. The exhibition calendar is relentless and so, in 2012, two exhibitions for 2013 were also being prepared 'behind the scenes': a remembrance of the *HMAS Melbourne (1)* and *Right Royal* – an exhibition on the influence of monarchy on the cultural identity of Victoria.

During 2012 three large donations were made to our Images Collection. The Society's collection of material

relating to the life, career and passions of Macpherson Robertson was expanded by two gifts; one of glass slides and an original wrapper printer; and the other - a wide range of company documents, recipes and prototype packaging donated by the management of companies that succeeded Macpherson Robertson.

A donation of a different kind was from the estate of the late Archie Cowan (1938 -2011): original artworks in pen and ink of nineteenth century houses in Essendon including many maps – creating a beautiful and personal archive of the area.

Throughout the year, 2,500 entries were added to the Images Catalogue.

In the manuscripts collection work began on rehousing and examining our own archive of minutes, letter books and papers. Within this collection are prominent Victorians including Deakin, Jessie Webb and Sir Ernest Scott.

The RHSV library actively collects local histories; throughout the year local history authors and historical societies submitted copies of their publications to be reviewed in *History News* and included in our collection. Entries to the *Victorian Community History Awards* similarly become part of our collection. In 2012, approximately 500 books were added to the catalogue.

The aim of the Collections Team is to make our collections accessible. Teams index, catalogue and research material. It is estimated that the Research Team answered 3,600 research requests in 2012. Members and non- members can do their own research and the Collections Team provide outstanding individual assistance.

It was with pride that the RHSV was able to lend 'our treasures' to other institutions for exhibition; most particularly our map of Liverpool, hand drawn by J.J. Clark at the

age of twelve, was lent to Public Record Office Victoria for their *Gold and Governors: 150 Years of the Old Treasury Building*, and the RHSV Barak painting *Untitled 1880-1890* was lent to the Yarra Ranges Regional Museum.

In late 2011, during our Christmas break, our honorary librarian Barbara Nixon passed away. She is greatly missed and in 2013 we will set aside \$1,000 to undertake practical improvements for the library in her name.

Our collection is our passion. It reflects the people who have been involved in the Society, the "quieter history makers" and those who have played a more prominent role in Victoria's history. It is the heart beat of the society and Council thanks everybody who volunteers their time and expertise at the RHSV to make it accessible.

Kate Prinsley and Richard Barnden

Collections Committee



Sir Macpherson Robertson 'training' a horse. Macpherson Robertson Collection: RHSV

RHSV FOUNDATION COMMITTEE'S REPORT

The RHSV Foundation has had another steady year. Established in 2009 to mark the RHSV Centenary, a principal purpose of the Foundation is to build financial sustainability and independence for the Society. The Foundation received a considerable initial boost when it received very generous contributions from Dame Elisabeth Murdoch AC DBE and Mr Gordon Moffatt AM. Since then the Foundation has received steady support from members and friends through donations and bequests. The Foundation has also conducted modest fund raising activity in the form of a wine fundraiser. As is reported elsewhere in this Annual Report, the Foundation is now in excess of \$223,753.

The Foundation committee has adopted a policy of reinvesting half of the interest earned during the year. The other half is applied to

a project or activity that supports the Collection and thus the Society. In 2012, \$5,277 was made available to implement sustainable preventative conservation measures to protect the collection.

It is with great sadness that we report the passing of Foundation committee member Dr Rod Benjamin OAM. Rod was the driving force in creating the Foundation and his passing is deeply felt.

Following the 2012 Council elections membership of the Foundation committee (a sub-committee of Council) changed. Professor Bill Russell, former RHSV President, remained Chair, with Dr Robert Barnes, Treasurer RHSV joining the committee.

Retiring Council members Dr Simon Smith and John Hulskamp are thanked for their advice on the Foundation Committee.

Members and friends of the RHSV are encouraged to support the Foundation through gifts and bequests. Both are tax deductible.

Professor Bill Russell

Chair, Foundation Committee



TREASURER'S REPORT FOR FINANCIAL YEAR 2012

I am very pleased to present the RHSV financial report for the year 2012. Our total expenditure for the year was \$410,044, offset by an income of \$425,331, resulting in a surplus of \$15,287.

Most line items matched budget fairly evenly, however the biggest worry for the Society is the effective loss of our rental income of \$20,000 pa owing to the departure of tenants. We will therefore need to maintain an even closer watch over costs during 2013, as well as seeking alternative income sources.

The RHSV Foundation made a surplus of \$9,832 for the year and currently has assets of \$223,753. This figure is carefully monitored to obtain the most favourable interest rate but additional donations or bequests are needed to strengthen this figure. To facilitate this, the Foundation has Deductible Gift Recipient status with the Australian Tax Office, so contributions to the Foundation are tax deductible.

It is important that the Society remains alert to all funding and grant opportunities, since we would struggle without them. Membership subscriptions were slightly down on last year, \$58,000 from \$59,000. We are currently examining our insurance costs to ascertain if we can effect a reduction, as total insurance costs increased by \$14,000 in 2012. On balance, the RHSV's financial position as at the end of 2012 is sound, however 2013 will provide considerable challenge to compensate for the rental loss. We are making good use of our internet banking and our website will facilitate online payments for purchases, donations and membership subscriptions.

I would like to express my gratitude to Kate Prinsley and Gerardine Horgan for their cooperation and support and to the volunteers and Council members for their contribution. Special thanks go to our independent auditor Mr Dimitrios Beroukas.

Dr Robert Barnes

Treasurer



**Royal Historical Society of Victoria Inc
Income Statement
For the Year ended 31 December 2012**

	Note	2012 \$	2011 \$
Revenue		425,331	393,009
Depreciation and Amortisation		2,695	6,153
Other Expenses		407,349	389,576
Profit before Income Tax	2	<u>15,287</u>	<u>(2,720)</u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements



Royal Historical Society of Victoria Inc
Balance Sheet
As at 31 December 2012

	Note	2012 \$	2011 \$
Current Assets			
Cash and Cash Equivalents	3	236,725	203,870
Trade and Other Receivables	4	12,813	17,850
Prepayments		21,195	16,858
Total Current Assets		<u>270,733</u>	<u>238,578</u>
Non-Current Assets			
Property, Plant and Equipment	5	<u>6,887</u>	<u>6,838</u>
Total Non-Current Assets		<u>6,887</u>	<u>6,838</u>
Total Assets		<u>277,620</u>	<u>245,416</u>
Current Liabilities			
Trade and Other Payables	6	12,963	14,795
Short-Term Financial Liabilities	7	<u>104,081</u>	<u>85,770</u>
Total Current Liabilities		<u>117,044</u>	<u>100,565</u>
Total Liabilities		<u>117,044</u>	<u>100,565</u>
Net Assets		<u>160,576</u>	<u>144,851</u>
Equity			
Reserves	8	145,289	144,851
Retained Profits		15,287	-
Total Equity		<u>160,576</u>	<u>144,851</u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements



**Royal Historical Society of Victoria Inc
Profit and Loss Statement
For the Year ended 31 December 2012**

	2012	2011
	\$	\$
Income		
Research Fees	35,539	36,533
Sales Publications	14,229	17,181
Donations	7,612	8,028
Interest Received	7,514	9,901
Grants	154,627	140,653
GVEHO Grant	5,000	5,000
Annual Subscriptions	58,200	59,160
Insurance member Societies	58,701	51,401
Sundry Other Income	83,909	65,152
	<u>425,331</u>	<u>393,009</u>
Expenditure		
Advertising & Public relations	22,637	19,074
Depreciation	2,695	6,153
Postage	3,720	9,585
Printing & Stationery	3,128	3,454
Computer & Internet	8,091	9,331
History Week & Awards	39,540	42,462
Publications	7,772	11,283
Insurance Assets H Societies	32,360	28,217
Staff Cost	153,086	170,656
Occupancy Cost	41,452	44,017
Sundry Other Expenses	93,267	47,918
Telephone	2,296	3,579
	<u>410,044</u>	<u>395,729</u>
Profit before Income Tax	<u>15,287</u>	<u>(2,720)</u>

*The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements
These financial statements should be read in conjunction with the attached*



Royal Historical Society of Victoria Inc
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year ended 31 December 2012

	2012	2011
	\$	\$
2. Profit		
Expenses		
Depreciation and Amortisation Expenses	2,695	6,153
Advertising & Public relations	22,637	19,074
Postage	3,720	9,585
Printing & Stationery	3,128	3,454
Publications	7,772	11,283
Telephone	2,296	3,579
Other Expenses	367,796	342,601
	<u>410,044</u>	<u>395,729</u>
3. Cash and Cash Equivalents		
Cash on Hand	1,708	33
Paypal	360	-
Cash at Bank	234,657	203,837
	<u>236,725</u>	<u>203,870</u>
4. Trade and Other Receivables		
Current		
Sundry Debtors	11,103	13,422
Provision for GST	1,710	4,428
	<u>12,813</u>	<u>17,850</u>
Total Trade and Other Receivables	<u>12,813</u>	<u>17,850</u>
5. Property, Plant and Equipment		
Plant and Equipment		
Furniture & Fittings	42,176	41,676
Less Accumulated Depreciation & Impairment	35,289	34,838
	<u>6,887</u>	<u>6,838</u>
Total Plant and Equipment	<u>6,887</u>	<u>6,838</u>
Total Property, Plant and Equipment	<u>6,887</u>	<u>6,838</u>

These notes should be read in conjunction with the attached Compliance Report



Royal Historical Society of Victoria Inc
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year ended 31 December 2012

	2012	2011
	\$	\$
6. Trade and Other Payables		
Current		
Sundry Creditors	12,963	14,795
Total Trade and Other Payables	<u>12,963</u>	<u>14,795</u>
7. Financial Liabilities		
Current		
Subscriptions in Advance	28,138	29,513
Insurance in Advance	23,872	20,075
Grants Unallocated	49,909	34,197
PAYG Tax withheld	2,162	1,985
	<u>104,081</u>	<u>85,770</u>
Total Financial Liabilities	<u>104,081</u>	<u>85,770</u>
8. Reserves		
AGL Shaw Endowment	10,000	10,000
Armstrong Bequest	36,448	36,448
Ian Woodroffe Fund	2,000	2,000
General Reserve	96,841	96,403
	<u>145,289</u>	<u>144,851</u>

These notes should be read in conjunction with the attached Compliance Report



Royal Historical Society of Victoria Inc Compilation Report To Royal Historical Society of Victoria Inc

We have compiled the accompanying special purpose financial statements of Royal Historical Society Of Victoria Inc, which comprise the attached income and expenditure statement for the year ended 31 December 2012. The specific purpose for which the special purpose financial statements have been prepared is to provide financial information to the Committee of Management.

The Responsibility of the Committee of Management

The Committee of Management is solely responsible for the information contained in the special purpose financial statements and has determined that the basis of accounting adopted is appropriate to meet the needs of the Committee of Management for the purpose of complying with the Association's Constitution.

Our Responsibility

On the basis of information provided by the Committee of Management, we have compiled the accompanying special purpose financial statements in accordance with the basis of accounting and APES 315: Compilation of Financial Information.

Our procedures use accounting expertise to collect, classify and summarise the financial information, which the directors provided, in compiling the financial statements. Our procedures do not include verification or validation procedures. No audit or review has been performed and accordingly no assurance is expressed.

The special purpose financial statements were compiled exclusively for the benefit of the Committee of Management. We do not accept responsibility to any other person for the contents of the special purpose financial statements.



Dimitrios Beroukas
Chartered Accountants

9 May 2013



**Royal Historical Society Of Victoria Inc.
Independent Accountant's Review Report
to the Members of
Royal Historical Society of Victoria Inc.**

We have reviewed the accompanying financial report, being a special purpose financial report, of Royal Historical Society of Victoria Inc. (the association), which comprises the committee's report, the assets and liabilities statement as at 31 December 2012, the income and expenditure statement for the year then ended, notes comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information, and the statement by members of the committee.

Committee's Responsibility for the Financial Report

The committee of Royal Historical Society of Victoria Inc. is responsible for the preparation of the financial report, and has determined that the basis of preparation described in Note 1 is appropriate to meet the requirements of the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012 (VIC) and the needs of the members. The committee's responsibility also includes such internal control as the committee determines is necessary to enable the preparation of a financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Independent Accountant's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on our review. We have conducted our review in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards. Those standards require that we comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to review engagement and plan and perform the review to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial report is free from material misstatement.

An review involves performing procedures to obtain evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial report. The procedures selected depend on the accountant's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the accountant considers internal control relevant to the association's preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view, in order to design accounting procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the association's internal control. The review also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the committee, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report.

We believe that the review evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

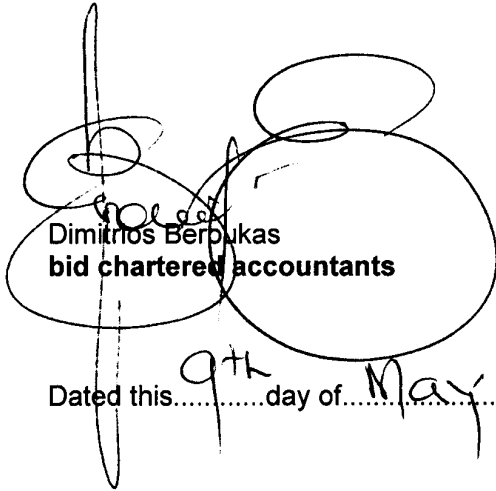
Opinion

In our opinion, the financial report presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Royal Historical Society of Victoria Inc. as at 31 December 2012 and its financial performance for the year then ended in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements, and the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012 (VIC).



Basis of Accounting and Restriction on Distribution

Without modifying our opinion, we draw attention to Note 1 to the financial report, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report has been prepared to assist Royal Historical Society of Victoria Inc. to meet the requirements of the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012 (VIC). As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose.


Dimitrios Berpukas
bid chartered accountants

Dated this 9th day of May 2013



Royal Historical Society of Victoria Inc Statement by Members of the Committee

The committee has determined that the association is not a reporting entity and that this special purpose financial report should be prepared in accordance with the accounting policies outlined in Note 1 to the financial statements.

In the opinion of the committee as set out in the accompanying financial statements:

1. Presents a true and fair view of the financial position of Royal Historical Society of Victoria Inc as at 31 December 2012 and its performance for the year ended on that date.
2. At the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that Royal Historical Society of Victoria Inc will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

This statement is made in accordance with a resolution of the committee and is signed for and on behalf of the committee by:

.....
Dr Andrew Lemon
President

.....
Dr Robert Barnes
Treasurer

Dated this...13...day of...May... 2013



**Royal Historical Society of Victoria Foundation
Income Statement
For the Year ended 31 December 2012**

	Note	2012 \$	2011 \$
Revenue		15,109	21,532
Other Expenses	2	5,277	5,581
Profit before Income Tax		9,832	15,951

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements



**Royal Historical Society of Victoria Foundation
Balance Sheet
As at 31 December 2012**

	Note	2012 \$	2011 \$
Current Assets			
Cash and Cash Equivalents	3	<u>223,753</u>	<u>213,921</u>
Total Current Assets		<u>223,753</u>	<u>213,921</u>
Total Assets		<u>223,753</u>	<u>213,921</u>
Net Assets		<u>223,753</u>	<u>213,921</u>
Equity			
Reserves	4	213,921	213,921
Retained Profits		9,832	-
Total Equity		<u>223,753</u>	<u>213,921</u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements



Royal Historical Society of Victoria Foundation
Profit and Loss Statement
For the Year ended 31 December 2012

	2012	2011
	\$	\$
Income		
Donation Received	3,795	6,000
Interest Received	10,483	14,044
Sundry Income	831	1,488
	<u>15,109</u>	<u>21,532</u>
Expenditure		
Sundry Expenses	5,277	5,581
	<u>5,277</u>	<u>5,581</u>
Profit before Income Tax	<u><u>9,832</u></u>	<u><u>15,951</u></u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements
These financial statements should be read in conjunction with the attached



**Royal Historical Society of Victoria Foundation
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year ended 31 December 2012**

	2012 \$	2011 \$
2. Profit		
Expenses		
Other Expenses	5,277	5,581
	<u>5,277</u>	<u>5,581</u>
3. Cash and Cash Equivalents		
Cash at Bank	43,753	43,921
Bendigo Bank- Term Deposit	180,000	170,000
	<u>223,753</u>	<u>213,921</u>
4. Reserves		
General Reserve	223,753	213,921
	<u>223,753</u>	<u>213,921</u>

The notes should be read in conjunction with the attached Compilation Report



Royal Historical Society of Victoria Foundation Compilation Report To Royal Historical Society of Vic Foundation

We have compiled the accompanying special purpose financial statements of Royal Historical Society Of Victoria Foundation, which comprise the attached income and expenditure statement for the year ended 31 December 2012. The specific purpose for which the special purpose financial statements have been prepared is to provide financial information to the Committee of Management.

The Responsibility of the Committee of Management

The Committee of Management is solely responsible for the information contained in the special purpose financial statements and has determined that the basis of accounting adopted is appropriate to meet the needs of the Committee of Management for the purpose of complying with the Association's Constitution.

Our Responsibility

On the basis of information provided by the Committee of Management, we have compiled the accompanying special purpose financial statements in accordance with the basis of accounting and APES 315: Compilation of Financial Information.

Our procedures use accounting expertise to collect, classify and summarise the financial information, which the directors provided, in compiling the financial statements. Our procedures do not include verification or validation procedures. No audit or review has been performed and accordingly no assurance is expressed.

The special purpose financial statements were compiled exclusively for the benefit of the Committee of Management. We do not accept responsibility to any other person for the contents of the special purpose financial statements.



Dimitrios Beroukas
Chartered Accountants

9 May 2013



Royal Historical Society Of Vic Foundation Independent Accountant's Review Report to the Members of Royal Historical Society of Victoria Foundation

We have reviewed the accompanying financial report, being a special purpose financial report, of Royal Historical Society of Victoria Foundation (the association), which comprises the committee's report, the assets and liabilities statement as at 31 December 2012, the income and expenditure statement for the year then ended, notes comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information, and the statement by members of the committee.

Committee's Responsibility for the Financial Report

The committee of Royal Historical Society of Victoria Foundation is responsible for the preparation of the financial report, and has determined that the basis of preparation described in Note 1 is appropriate to meet the requirements of the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012 (VIC) and the needs of the members. The committee's responsibility also includes such internal control as the committee determines is necessary to enable the preparation of a financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Independent Accountant's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on our review. We have conducted our review in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards. Those standards require that we comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to review engagement and plan and perform the review to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial report is free from material misstatement.

An review involves performing procedures to obtain evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial report. The procedures selected depend on the accountant's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the accountant considers internal control relevant to the association's preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view, in order to design accounting procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the association's internal control. The review also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the committee, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report.

We believe that the review evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Opinion

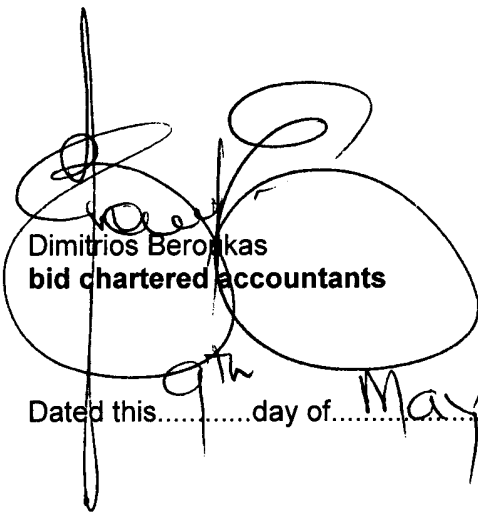
In our opinion, the financial report presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Royal Historical Society of Victoria Foundation as at 31 December 2012 and its financial performance for the year then ended in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements, and the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012 (VIC).



**Royal Historical Society of Victoria Foundation
Independent Accountant's Review Report
to the Members of
Royal Historical Society of Victoria Foundation**

Basis of Accounting and Restriction on Distribution

Without modifying our opinion, we draw attention to Note 1 to the financial report, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report has been prepared to assist Royal Historical Society of Victoria Foundation to meet the requirements of the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012 (VIC). As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose.



Dimitrios Beronkas
bid chartered accountants

Dated this 9th day of May 2013



Royal Historical Society of Victoria Foundation Statement by Members of the Committee

The committee has determined that the association is not a reporting entity and that this special purpose financial report should be prepared in accordance with the accounting policies outlined in Note 1 to the financial statements.

In the opinion of the committee as set out in the accompanying financial statements:

1. Presents a true and fair view of the financial position of Royal Historical Society of Victoria Foundation as at 31 December 2012 and its performance for the year ended on that date.
2. At the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that Royal Historical Society of Victoria Foundation will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

This statement is made in accordance with a resolution of the committee and is signed for and on behalf of the committee by:

.....
Prof. Bill Russell

.....
Dr. Robert Barnes



RHSV COUNCILLORS AND STAFF

PRESIDENT

Dr. Andrew Lemon FRHSV

VICE PRESIDENTS

Lenore Frost – Convenor History Victoria Support Group

Professor Bill Russell

TREASURER

Dr Robert Barnes

SECRETARY

Carole Woods FRHSV

COUNCILLORS

Professor Richard Broome (Co-opted December 2012)

Jane Carolan

Assoc. Professor Don Garden FRHSV

Elisabeth Jackson (Co-opted December 2012)

Joan Hunt FRHSV

Adjunct. Professor Judith Smart FRHSV

Glen Turnbull

NON-COUNCIL MEMBERS ON RHSV COMMITTEES

John Adams FRHSV
Collections and Research

Judith Bilszta FRHSV
Collections and Research

Richard Barnden FRHSV
Collections and Research

Marie Clarke
Publications Committee

Dr. Mimi Colligan FRHSV
Publications Committee

Associate Professor Don Gibb FRHSV
Publications Committee

Dr Kate Jones
Publications Committee

Dorothy Minkoff
Collections and Research

Dr. Richard Morton FRHSV
Publications Committee

Dr Carolyn Rasmussen
Publications Committee

Professor John Rickard FRHSV
Publications Committee

Professor Bill Russell
Publications Committee

Dr Emma Russell
Publications Committee

Dr. Peter Yule FRHSV
Foundation Committee

HISTORY VICTORIA SUPPORT GROUP

Lenore Frost - Convenor and RHSV Vice President

Jane Nigro (Malvern)

Alleyne Hockley (Castlemaine)

Jeff Starkey (Euroa)

Judy Richardson (Stratford)

Larina Strauch (Kyneton)

Bernard Bolch (Walhalla)

Jenny Coates (Narre Warren & District) – until May 2012

COMMITTEE STRUCTURE

Executive and Finance Committee

Andrew Lemon (chair), Carole Woods, Robert Barnes, Bill Russell, Lenore Frost, Kate Prinsley and Gerardine Horgan (non-voting): provision to co-opt.
Responsible for governance, financial management, strategic planning.

Publications

Don Gibb (acting chair), Carole Woods, Judith Smart, Kate Prinsley, Mimi Colligan, Richard Morton, John Rickard, Andrew Lemon; Emma Russell, Peter Yule Marie Clark (VHJ Editor), Kate Jones (Production Editor).

Responsible for Victorian Historical Journal, and other RHSV publications.

Membership, Events and Outreach

Andrew Lemon (chair), Lenore Frost, Jane Carolan, Kate Prinsley; John Rose (book sale committee).

Responsible for specific events such as conferences, lecture program, the book sale, open house. Strategic planning for increasing and fostering membership.

Collections and Research

Christine Cooze (non-voting chair) until June 2012, Jason Odering (non-voting chair) from August 2012 ; Kate Prinsley, Glen Turnbull, Richard Barnden, John Adams, Dorothy Minkoff, Guy Featherstone

Responsible for library, images, manuscripts, IT and research projects.

History Victoria Support Group

Lenore Frost (Convenor)
Delegates as listed above.

Responsible for historical societies, networking, professional development.

RHSV Foundation

Bill Russell (chair), Robert Barnes, Kate Prinsley

Responsible for promotion and development of RHSV Foundation.

RHSV Fellows Committee

Andrew Lemon (chair), Carole Woods, Don Garden, Judith Smart

To meet as required under the RHSV Constitution.

Victorian Community History Awards organising committee

Bill Russell (chair), Lenore Frost, Carole Woods, Kate Prinsley

Responsible for management of Victorian Community History Awards



RHSV COUNCILLORS AND STAFF *CONTINUED*

The RHSV is represented on the following committees

Federation of Australian Historical Societies
History Council of Victoria
Public Record Office of Victoria Stakeholders Group
Holsworth Heritage Trust
Victorian Community History Awards
State Library Users Group
Victorian Community Collections Network
Office of Geographic Names Anzac Commemorative Naming Pilot Project

RHSV STAFF

Executive Officer

Kate Prinsley (Full-time)

Administrative Assistant

Gerardine Horgan (Full-time)

IT Manager/Local History Officer

Laura Frost 2 days per week
(Completed contract February 2012)

Chris Sharp

Volunteer co-ordinator/curator

Chris Cooze 3 days per week.
Retired June 2012

Local History Librarian

Jason Odering .7 EFT

Auditor

Dimitrous Beroukas
Business Investment Decisions Pty.Ltd.
Level 3 IBM Centre
60 City Road
Southbank 3001

Hon. Legal Officer

Ashley Pelman,
Hunt & Hunt
360 Collins Street
Melbourne 3000

RHSV Prize for Australian History 2012 at La Trobe University was awarded to:

Emily de Rongo

The RHSV hosted work experience students from the following schools:

Ave Maria College, Aberfeldie
St Margaret's School, Berwick
Sacred Heart Girls' College, Oakleigh

Library Students from:

Swinburne University of Technology

Australian History Students:

Deakin University



FELLOWS, BENEFACTORS & VOLUNTEERS

The names of the Fellows of the RHSV living in December 2012 and the year in which they were awarded Fellowships are listed below:

- 1967 Prof. G.N. Blainey
- 1974 H.M. Anderson
- 1975 Patricia Wilkie
- 1976 J.D. Adams
- 1991 Prof. Weston Bate
- 1995 Dr John F. Lack
Dr Andrew G. Lemon
- 1997 Prof. John Rickard
- 1999 Assoc. Prof. Don Garden
- 2000 John Murphy
- 2001 Susan Priestley
- 2003 Judith Bilszta
Valda Cole
- 2005 Assoc. Prof. Don Gibb
Dr. Richard Morton
- 2006 Dr Mimi Colligan
John Lahey
- 2008 Joan Hunt
Dr. Gary Presland
Carole Woods
- 2010 Dr Peter Yule
- 2011 Richard Barnden
Allan Willingham
- 2012 Adjunct Prof. Judith Smart

Awards of Merit 2012

Robyn Doble – Box Hill Historical society

- John Jennings – Seymour and District Historical Society
- Dione McIntyre- Kew Historical Society
- Ruth Permezel – RHSV
- David Thompson – RHSV
- John Rose - RHSV

Benefactors

- 1996 Dame Elisabeth Murdoch
Prof. A.G.L. Shaw
- 1997 Prof. Weston Bate
- 2000 Allan Willingham
- 2005 Gordon Moffatt AM
- 2008 Dame Elisabeth Murdoch

Volunteers

- Lucille Andel
- Miriam Amiet-Knottenbelt
- Frances Ardern
- Tony Aplin
- Richard Barnden
- Liz Bath
- Judith Bilszta
- George Bilszta
- Sue Blackwood
- Rochelle Bloom
- Wesley Callender
- Nidia Cardone
- Shahan Cheong
- Liz Coady
- Jenny Connor
- Margaret Connor
- Jenny Davies
- Margie Edmonds
- Jill Evans
- Guy Featherstone
- Margaret Fleming
- Margaret Ford
- Virginia Fowler
- Carissa Goudey

- Brigid Griffin
- Cheryl Griffin
- Rachel Harding
- Pam Herrington
- Peter Hogan
- Lorraine James
- Louis Kannavas
- Charles Lewis
- Keith Latham
- Amanda Lourie
- Christopher Manchee
- Cassandra Mackie
- John Mercer
- Dorothy Minkoff
- Michael Moore
- Paul Mullaly
- Norma Mullins
- Jeremy Pascoe
- Lyndal Pascoe
- Ruth Permezel
- Diana Phoenix
- Valerie Rohde
- John Rose
- Daisy Searls
- Ken Sheahan
- Alida Sijmons
- Sandra Sutcliffe
- David Thompson
- John Torpey
- Sandra Torpey
- Brian Ward
- Brian Watson
- Denise Young

DONATIONS AND BEQUESTS

A participant in the Cultural Gifts Program, the RHSV also enjoys a status with the Australian Taxation Office as 'an income tax exempt charitable entity'. The RHSV Library, Art Gallery and Museum Fund has been endorsed by the Australian Tax Office as 'a deductible gift recipient'. This method of contributing to the maintenance of our existing marvellous collection of books, manuscripts, pictures and artefacts, or enabling the Society to add to its collection, provides a benefit both to our Victorian heritage, and to the donor.

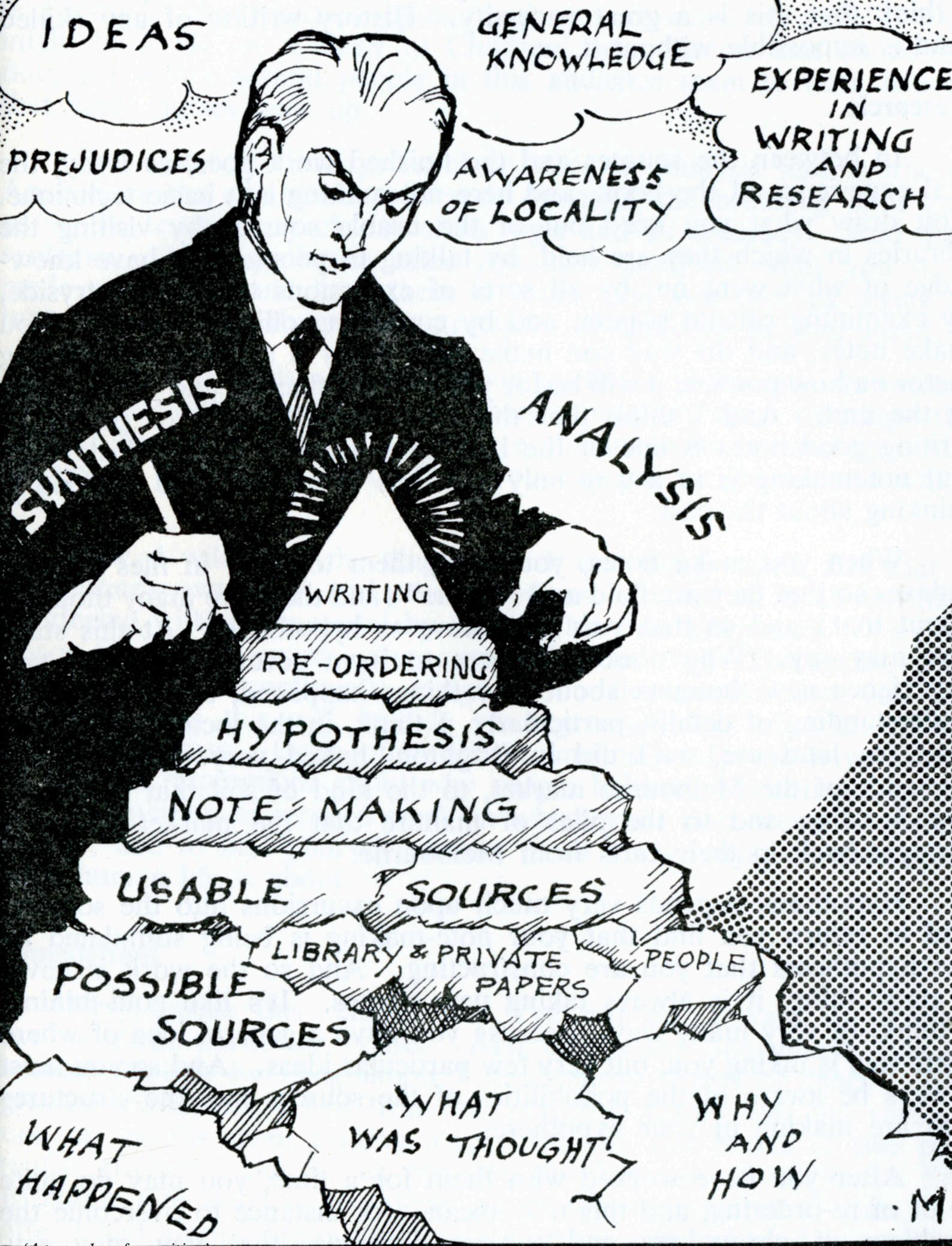
Donations of cultural items through the Cultural Gifts Program offer attractive taxation benefits - donors receive a tax deduction for the market value of the donation, which can be spread over five income years and donations are exempt from capital gains tax. Advice on the Cultural Gifts Program is available from the Australian Taxation Office, or from the Department of Communications, Information Technology and the Arts.

In addition to the gift of an item or items under the Cultural Gifts Program, monetary bequests can be made to the Society as a specific sum or as a proportion of an Estate.

Tax deductible donations and monetary bequests (as a specific sum or as a proportion of an Estate) can also be directed to the Royal Historical Society of Victoria Foundation.

A solicitor should be consulted when a Will is made.





Margaret Mahood, artist, Victorian Historical Magazine, Vol 37, May-August 1966, p 143

—Drawn by Mrs. M. Mahood

A PROCEDURE FOR WRITING.



ROYAL HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF VICTORIA INC.

239 A'BECKETT STREET MELBOURNE 3000

Phone: 9326 9288

Fax: 9326 9477

website: <http://www.historyvictoria.org.au>

email: office@historyvictoria.org.au



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Arts Victoria