



History NEWS

Issue No. 301 July/August 2012

Royal Historical Society of Victoria

Announcing the RHSV Forums

Following the demise of our long loved MC2 – the RHSV welcomes you to four new fresh History Victoria forums.

Click on the Forums tag on the top row of our website and follow the links to become a registered user and begin to participate in our on line community.

The forums are open to everybody. You do not need to be a member of the RHSV or a member of an affiliated historical society. We welcome comments and participation from everybody passionate about the history of Victoria.

There are four forums:

Members Research:

What are you researching at the moment? Do you need help with source material or finding contacts? Are other people researching similar topics? Share your knowledge with others and build a forum full of research ideas.

General:

Join the online discussions on issues in local history. How do you feel about the teaching of local history in schools? Do you need to be local to do local history? What issues are concerning you about history in Victoria?

Cataloguing:

Contribute to the discussions on cataloguing throughout Victoria.

History Victoria Support Group:

A forum for members of historical societies – a place to promote events and linked to calendar to advertise and plan dates. Seminar days, workshops, posting of grants information will all be the substance of this forum.

Forums are only as dynamic as the people who use them – join our on line community to be inspired. Go to:

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



Help us serve up a dose of history this History Week!

Victoria's wide and wonderful past looks set to come alive again this October with a range of events in store for this year's History Week.

Being held from 21-28 October, Victorians can:

- take the family on a trip back in time touring Melbourne's many historical delights - from the Burke and Wills monument to the Fairies' Tree;
- learn all about the fascinating art of early visual technology at the Magic Lantern Society's Australian Convention;
- experience the lavish interiors and enjoy afternoon tea and a glass of sparkling wine in one of Melbourne's most significant nineteenth century mansions;
- roll out the picnic rug and enjoy an afternoon of historic motor vehicles, local arts and crafts at Maffra's Annual Federation Picnic;
- applaud the people and projects who preserve and share Victoria's history, at the Victorian Community History Awards.

And much more!

Help us promote our fabulous past by including your event in the History Week calendar.

Event details can be submitted online at www.historyweek.org.au. Please follow the link on the home page to access the submission form.

Once approved, your event will be included in the calendar, and you will be provided with a copy of the History Week logo and postcards to promote the Week.

For more information visit www.historyweek.org.au or email info@historyweek.org.au

History Week is generously supported by the Vera Moore Foundation.

**THE VICTORIAN COMMUNITY HISTORY
AWARDS ARE NOW OPEN SEE PAGE 5**

Books are now being received for our annual Book Sale

We need books on any topic.

We will come and collect them.

Phone 9326 9288 for collection.

Alternatively you can drop them into the RHSV – there is 10 minutes free parking directly outside.

Please help us with our major fundraiser for the year.

The date of the book sale is

SUNDAY 9 SEPTEMBER

Vale

Dr. Rod Benjamin OAM



Dr Rod Benjamin and Carmel Benjamin at the RHSV Centenary Garden Party, November 2009

It is with great sadness that we report the passing of Dr. Rod Benjamin. Everyone who dealt with Rod at the RHSV loved his warmth, his intelligence and his integrity. As our Honorary Treasurer he became something of a legend as the man who brought the RHSV back 'into the black'

Rod was a highly regarded historian, the author of three books of particular significance: *'Paths to Professionalism'*, *A History of Insurance Broking in Australia* (1988), *A 'Serious Influx of Jews'*, *A History of Jewish Welfare in Victoria* (1998), *The Forgotten Zionist* (2012) a biography of Sioma Jacobi, the father of his wife Carmel and the most senior figure in the Revisionist Zionist movement in the 1930s after Jabotinsky.

Rod also co-edited or contributed to *The Australian Insurance Industry, 160 Years On* (1992), *A Few From Afar, Jewish Lives in Tasmania from 1804* (2003), *The Internationalisation Strategies of Small-Country Firms, The Australian Experience of Globalisation* (2007)

Rod was the youngest grandson of Sir Benjamin Benjamin – the first Jewish Lord Mayor of Melbourne in 1888.

Rod had an active involvement in history – being treasurer of the History Institute of Victoria – before coming to the RHSV.

It was Rod's energy and progressive thinking which led to the RHSV establishing modern book-keeping procedures; his development of our insurance scheme for historical societies continues to provide an important service to our sector; his advocacy for the foundation has put the RHSV on a sound financial footing; and his good sense, care and generous manner brought a touch of class to our organisation. Not to mention his stylish adoption of period dress for our centenary garden party!

Rod will be deeply missed.

Melbourne Rare Book Week

19 July – 29 July

The Australian and New Zealand Association of Antiquarian Booksellers (ANZAAB) is proud to present the inaugural Melbourne Rare Book Week – a series of informative and entertaining lectures, events and exhibitions celebrating the book and the joy of collecting.

For further information on Melbourne Rare Book Week go to:

www.rarebookweek.com

Hard copy programs are included with this newsletter. Electronic programs can be downloaded www.rarebookweek.com/programguide.php



RHSV TALK AND SMALL EXHIBITION

TUESDAY 24 JULY

The RHSV will be presenting a small exhibition of rare books donated to the Society by ordinary people. Dr. Andrew Lemon will be speaking on Tuesday 24 July, lunchtime 12.00pm – 2.00pm at the RHSV on some of our more significant rare books. Free admission to all events

RHSV RARE BOOK EXHIBITION 23 JULY – 29 JULY

Extraordinary books from ordinary people

As part of the event the RHSV will display a selection of items from its book collection. Those chosen were published over three centuries from 1787 to 1954 (the 21st Century has so far not produced an item worthy of display).



The range of subjects reflect major themes in Australian history – convicts, bushrangers, military heroes – whilst others celebrate the work of an architect and a masonic philosopher (his offering is undoubtedly the rarest book in the Society's collection, only one other copy being extant in Australia). The most recent items connect Australia to its British heritage and echo recent celebrations in London.

To find out which books from our collection will be on display during Rare Book Week – visit the RHSV 23 July – 29 July (The Society will be open on Sunday July 29 for Melbourne Open House Weekend)

SAVE THE DATES

Weston Bate: Fifty Years Since Brighton

FRIDAY EVENING 16 NOVEMBER – Dinner

SATURDAY 17 NOVEMBER
10.00 – 4.00 – Conference

A black tie or bow tie dinner and conference to celebrate the special contribution made by Weston Bate to the research and writing of local history in Victoria and Australia.

Packing so much in

We as members of the RHSV run this organisation on goodwill and volunteers. Our dedicated, mostly part-time, staff is small and they work beyond the call of duty. At the end of June we reluctantly farewelled our multi-tasking Volunteers' Co-ordinator, librarian, researcher and 'site-searcher' Chris Cooze who has decided the time has come to ease her workload. Chris came to the RHSV in a part-time capacity after retiring from a long and respected career at Monash University Library and she has directed a lively band of RHSV volunteers in a wide range of projects over the past four years. At a morning tea at the end of June we were able to say a simple thank-you to Chris for her work and were glad to hear that, after a well-deserved break, she will continue to assist us from time to time in a voluntary capacity. We also made our farewells and thanks to Ruth Permezel who has decided to finish up here after 14 years of voluntary work. Ruth, along with continuing volunteers David Thompson and John Rose, was honoured with the Society's Award of Merit at the last Annual General Meeting.

Our urgent priority is to appoint a new officer to combine some of the functions previously carried out by Chris, by Laura Frost and, before her, Vicki Court, and we hope to announce a new appointee in the next *History News*. We have many demands on our expertise and collections, and we know how important it is now for us like all historical societies to be up-to-date with technology. At the moment we can still afford only a part-time local history librarian. The Council is exploring ways to boost our revenues. The State Government has been a generous supporter in two ways. First, through Arts Victoria it provides a recurrent grant that helps us meet our overheads and underwrites our programme of public exhibitions that showcase our collections and those of like-minded organisations. A foreshadowed 3 per cent cut in the grant for 2012-13 must now be made up for elsewhere.

The government also has provided our premises at 239 A'Beckett Street, though we return the compliment in kind by being the ideal custodian for this heritage-listed art deco treasure in the historic western end of the city opposite Flagstaff Gardens. Which is a reminder to RHSV members to invite their friends to include us on their itinerary for the annual Melbourne Open House. Our building will be open to the public on Sunday 29 July from 10am to 4pm. Details are on the website www.openhousemelbourne.org. If you would like to volunteer an hour



Andrew Lemon with a group of student teachers from the University of Delaware who were beginning a month-long study tour of south eastern Australia and visited the RHSV.

or two as a host on that day, please contact Kate Prinsley 9326 9288 or kateprinsley@historyvictoria.org.au.

Having just returned in May from my two months in America, I was delighted to host a bright group of student teachers from the University of Delaware who were beginning a month-long study tour of south eastern Australia. Their group leader Gail Rys selected the RHSV as the ideal organisation to introduce the students to the history of Australia: their homework to that point had been the films *Rabbit-Proof Fence* and Baz Luhrmann's epic *Australia*. After keeping them awake with a potted history of Australia (and the ways in which Victoria differs from New South Wales), we took them for a walk in the Flagstaff Gardens. The sun shone benignly on the first day of winter. Gail wrote a lovely thank-you note and explained the history of their toy mascot which accompanied them everywhere:

'Our school mascot is a "Fighting Blue Hen" which was supposedly quite a ferocious game cock that was used for cock fighting by one of the Delaware regiments during the Revolutionary War. The Delaware soldiers were said to have fought the British as gamely as the cocks, thus resulting in the Fighting Blue Hen as the state bird and the mascot for our University. The name of the UD mascot is YouDee, if anyone asks.'

The pace of events did not stop for the whole of June. Membership renewals; distribution of the latest *Victorian Historical Journal* with that wonderful picture of Buchan marble in Australia House, London on the cover; the AGL Shaw Lecture, our joint gala event with the CJ La Trobe Society where Susan Priestley spoke superbly on the intersection of the worlds of La Trobe and Henrietta Dugdale; planning meetings with the Genealogical Society of Victoria as we explore ways of bringing our two societies more closely together; the launch of the 2012 Victorian Community History Awards application brochure in conjunction with the Public Record Office Victoria and with special guest and last year's winner Gib Wettenthal; the evening launch of our exhibition 'Melbourne Theatres in

Transition' curated by Mimi Colligan; and Mimi's 'encore' lunchtime floor talk which drew a record 88 paying customers (all of whom, Mimi assures us, had grandmothers who had once been on the stage). And the farewell morning tea for Chris Cooze.

This current month of July is no less busy. I would particularly urge members and friends to venture out to hear 'new historians' Amanda Lourie and Rebecca Carland each present a short lecture with the history of science as their unifying theme. This is on Tuesday 17 July at 5.45 at the RHSV and the heaters will be on: arrive early at 5.15 to enjoy wine and cheese. The lecture is jointly presented by the Professional Historians Association. Details are elsewhere in *History News*. You will also have advance notice of our August lecture on Thursday 30 August for Melbourne Day. John Hirst has earned his reputation as one of Australia's most readable, provocative and intelligent historians, and he very much deserves the credit for sustaining the heroic *Argus* index project, commenced before Trove was a gleam in anyone's eye. The RHSV was alarmed to learn that the National Library was planning to reduce its support for the *Argus* index project and we have written to the Library accordingly. We are delighted John Hirst has accepted our invitation to explain something of the project to us, and to reflect on his reading of thirty years of this leading Melbourne newspaper.

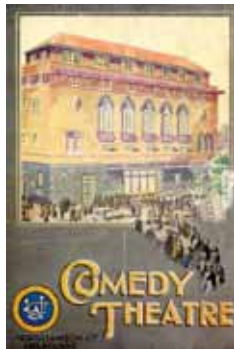
Finally a word to mourn the passing of one of Australia's finest writers who turned his talents to fiction, autobiography and history. Don Charlwood OAM was a former RHSV member and he died on 19 June at the age of 96. His autobiographical *All The Green Years* is worthy of comparison with such great Melbourne memoirs as Graham McInnes's *Road to Gundagai* and John Hetherington's *The Morning was Shining*. His *No Moon Tonight* is a first-hand testament to the heroism and humanity of those who flew with bomber command over Europe in World War II. His historical works included his account of ship voyages to colonial Australia, *The Long Farewell*. Farewell, Don Charlwood.

Dr Andrew Lemon

Theatrical Connections

The fundamental interconnectedness of all things (Dirk Gently / Douglas Adams)

Come and apply this principle to the RHSV's current exhibition: **Melbourne Theatres in Transition - 1840s to 1940s.**



Take one image – say the Olympic Theatre – relate it to Coppin and The Dramatic Homes (Clifton Hill); then to the Comedy Theatre; then to the theatre management skills of the Tait family; link them to the program for *Miss Nell O'New Orleans*.

Jump from theatre programmes as souvenirs for playgoers and theatre buffs to scrapbooks as the souvenirs of artists and their memories. Inspect the wallet given to an American Jewish comedian Harry Green ‘...with appreciation from the entire staff of The Athenaeum Theatre’. Observe that performing by Green's side was Roy Rene. Locate Rene and his *alter ego* ‘Mo Mcakie’ in a parade of stars.

Take time to examine the costumes of the stars – the gorgeous Gladys Moncrieff (rivalling any fashion model of today); the young Lillian Creswell dressed as a poppy, watched over by a spectacular *Turandot*, abutting 30 postcards drawn from over 400 donated to the Society by her grandson.

See stage sets designed in 1900 for theatrical spectacles as an attempt to match the steady creep of the two dimensional ‘flickers’ and compare this with the current re-emergence of 3D movies. Use the parade of theatre facades – past and present – to stir memories of stage and screen and their place in your life.

This is an exhibition to stir reminiscences, to reflect on the past and to see links in Melbourne's vibrant theatrical history. Certainly it is a display that can be viewed sequentially – but then take the opportunity to track backwards and forwards between exhibits as you begin to unravel its many interconnections.

The exhibition closes on Friday 31 August.

Members are entitled to free entry. Visitors are requested to make a gold coin donation. Group booking arrangements can be made: 'phone: 9326 9288; fax: 9326 9477.

Were you involved in student theatre at the University of Melbourne?

On the July 26th 2012 the University of Melbourne Theatre Board and Union House Theatre are hosting the Melbourne University Theatre Gala; a free event celebrating the past 75 years of student theatre. As part of the gala a new online resource, The Melbourne University Student Theatre Archive (www.must.unimelb.edu.au) will be launched. The Archive brings together this fascinating and eclectic theatre history in one place for the first time.

You can also search for particular productions or browse through a list of plays. Student theatre alumni are encouraged to browse the site and provide any feedback or additional information about productions including any photos, programs or posters that may be missing from our collection. Please email us at uht@union.unimelb.edu.au with any feedback.


All the University's a Stage - exhibition from the University of Melbourne Archives

To help celebrate the launch of the Melbourne University Student Theatre Archive, the University of Melbourne Archives is presenting an exhibition of posters, handbills, costume designs, programs and photographs, illustrating the diversity of student theatre from the 1960s to the 1980s. Items from the Melbourne University Student Union Theatre Department collection have been selected

When: 7.30am-9.30pm, Tuesday 24 July - Friday 27 July 11.30am-5.30pm, Saturday 28 July & Sunday 29 July

Where: Guild Theatre foyer, First floor, Union House, University of Melbourne, Parkville Campus

Cost: Free



HUMANITIES 21

Whatever happened to the great debates? In our relentless quest for wealth, security and scientific understanding, what role is left for history, literature and philosophy? Why are humanities departments in Australian universities chronically under-funded?

Humanities 21 seeks to bring humanities research and academics closer to the community and to business by:

- * Ensuring that the best of public programs and events offered by universities, clubs and societies in Melbourne are well promoted and made widely accessible
- * Developing new programs, lecture series and events that will bring the knowledge of leading humanities experts to bear on today's most important social issues
- * Increasing the contribution that humanities departments make to business in preparing graduates and training staff

Sign up to our FREE monthly newsletter, *Humanities in Melbourne*, for details of seminars, lectures, documentaries, articles and events.

Subscribe now!
Write to barbara@humanitiesmelbourne.com

<p>COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT Peter Acton John Armstrong Sue Hamilton Jan McGuinness Ian Renard Jeff Richardson Harrison Young</p>	<p>EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR Barbara Lemon</p>
--	--

Humanities 21 is housed at the State Library of Victoria. Write to us for details on how to subscribe, contribute or donate.



Uncovering local history

The Victorian Community History Awards are now open.

The annual Awards, run by Public Record Office Victoria and presented by the Royal Historical Society of Victoria recognise excellence in historical research with the aim of reaching and enriching Victorians through telling stories of local history.

Launched on Wednesday 20 June, Justine Heazlewood, Keeper and Director, Public Record Office Victoria said the Awards encourage researchers of all ages to use original records to discover their local history.

“There are millions of untold stories safeguarded in the repository at Public Record Office Victoria and we encourage applicants to utilise our collection as well as their local historical collections to discover stories about their communities,” said Ms Heazlewood.

This year, a new category aimed at young researchers has been introduced. The Young Historians Award encourages secondary school students aged between 15 and 18 to engage with local history by exploring local community and identities, significant events and heritage topics.

Other categories cover a variety of formats including unique publications, collaborations, historical interpretations and multimedia where entrants are encouraged to think outside the square and to look to new ways of presenting history.

Andrew Lemon, President, Royal Historical Society of Victoria said the Awards contribute to the development and appreciation of the history of Victoria.

“This annual event is about celebrating the work of both the amateur and professional historian and the importance of documenting local stories,” said Dr Lemon.

Entries are judged on content and presentation with a view to encouraging innovative ways of recording community history across Victoria.

2012 CATEGORIES:

- Victorian Community History Award \$5000
- History Publication Award \$2000
- Local History – Small Publication Award \$1500
- Local History Project Award \$2000
- Young Historians Award (15-18 years) \$500
- Collaborative Community History Award \$2000
- Multimedia History Award \$2000
- Historical Interpretation Award \$2000

For more information and to apply, visit www.historyvictoria.org.au. Entries close Friday 10 August 2012. Winners will be announced at the National Gallery of Victoria on Tuesday 23 October 2012.



Buildings, Books and Blackboard: Intersecting Narratives conference

Nov.28th-Dec. 1st 2012

RMIT University Melbourne, Australia

Combining the Australian and New Zealand History of Education Society, Mechanics' Institutes Worldwide (under the auspices of MIV) and incorporating the tenth library history forum this conference will have something for all those interested in history, libraries, books, reading and education!

This conference will provide a wonderful opportunity for people across a number of disciplines, states and countries to come together and talk to others with similar interests and to hear and enjoy a range of speakers who are experts in their field. International guest speakers, Prof. Adam Nelson, Prof. Alastair Black and Dr Martyn Walker will provide conference delegates with insights into their areas of expertise and other speakers and participants will provide a wide ranging and exciting programme.

Everyone is encouraged to participate and present in a wide range of presentation formats including individual papers, panel discussions, a picture and a thousand words and digital historical narratives. If you have not presented before check out the blog buildingsbooksandblackboards.blogspot.com to find out more about these options. Of particular interest may be the latter two options as they provide for short presentations and an opportunity for you to promote for example the history of your organisation, collections or buildings.

There are many options for attendance at the conference and delegate's fees are reasonably priced especially if you are a MIV member and take advantage of the early bird rates! You can even attend for a single day or if there are a number of you from one organisation you can share an institutional registration allowing different people to attend on different days. Concession rates also apply for students and concession card holders!

The organisers hope you will take full advantage of what we believe will be a fantastic event and the participation of as many of you as possible will make the event even better.

We are looking forward to your submissions (due by August 3rd 2012) and the pleasure of your company.

Check the blog for full details or contact Jill Bartholomeusz jillbarth@gmail.com or Mary Carroll macarroll@csu.edu.au

Mimi Colligan was recently interviewed about the exhibition on Radio 3RRR on Film Buff's Forecast. To listen to a recording of this interview go to 3RRR Radio On Demand Saturday June 30 Film Buff's Forecast.



MEMORIES of MONARCHY

In June 2013 the RHSV is planning an exhibition on the influence of monarchy on the cultural identity of Victoria.

Many local buildings, streetscapes and institutions show the footprint of monarchy; and monarchy was important in the celebration of many of Victoria's historical moments. For previous generations royalty had a profound significance, and we are still surrounded by this cultural phenomenon.

The exhibition will be based on the RHSV's collection, but we are asking members to consider a contribution to this event.

Have you a special souvenir (or souvenirs) of monarchy that you would be willing to lend the society for the duration of the exhibition?

Please contact the office if you have any material of interest (9326 9288). A member of the Exhibition Team will follow up your initial communication.

OPEN HOUSE 28 - 29 JULY



We are taking part in OPEN HOUSE MELBOURNE 2012 July 28 and 29.

The Royal Historical Society of Victoria will be open on Sunday 29 July

In only its fifth year Open House has become a significant cultural event for Melbourne.

With a record 100 sites taking part in Open House 2012, the weekend generates interest in design, history and the future of the city.

This year the program will feature a range of themes including: medical facilities, gardens in the sky, residential housing and underground sites. Each building has its own history and reveals some of the fascinating stories of the city.

In addition to the 100 open buildings, the Children's Program and Speakers Series – this year with a Gold medal theme – are returning.

To download the complete program go to openhousemelbourne.org

Open House Melbourne is part of the Open House Worldwide family and is an initiative of the Committee for Melbourne.

We require volunteers to help us on SUNDAY 29 July. If you love meeting people passionate about the city and curious about our built heritage – come along on Sunday and help us to encourage people through our building. We will give you training and plenty of refreshments!!! For further information please call Kate Prinsley 9326 9288

Our William Barak Painting on loan to Yarra Ranges Regional Museum

The Yarra Ranges Regional Museum is delighted to be currently displaying the painting by William Barak, *Untitled (figures in a corroboree)*, generously loaned by the Royal Historical Society of Victoria. The painting is situated in the Museum's Stories, People and Places exhibition, a showcase for the significant stories that have shaped the region.

Coranderrk Aboriginal Station is integral to the history of the region and this painting by one of its leaders greatly contributes to the exhibition. Coranderrk was established in 1863, after petitioning by Indigenous leaders to local authorities. The Indigenous community were finally allocated the land near Healesville, after much land had been taken over by European settlers and the impact from their farming in the area had diminished the usual food sources formally available to Indigenous people. Coranderrk proved a successful, self sufficient farm, producing high quality produce. The hops it produced won awards both in Australia and overseas at international exhibitions.

Barak is a significant figure in the history of the Yarra Ranges region. He was a greatly respected leader at Coranderrk, and renowned as an artist.

The imagery and themes depicted in this painting are typical of Barak's style of story telling. This painting was made c.1880-90 when Coranderrk was operating. He painted to pass on his cultural stories, to inform both the Indigenous and non-Indigenous community of traditional customs and ceremonies. Paintings such as this played a particularly important role in educating the younger Indigenous people, who were growing up in a changing world. His use of traditional painting methods and subject material also reinforced strong cultural connections through retaining cultural traditions as a key to the Indigenous community's survival

This significant painting by William Barak is on loan to the Yarra Ranges Regional Museum for 12 months and can be seen on display along with other artefacts and stories relating to Coranderrk and the Region. The museum is open Tuesday to Sunday.

The Yarra Ranges Regional Museum is at:

35-37 Castella Street Lilydale

Opening hours :

Tuesday - Friday 10 - 5

Sat - Sun 11 - 4

Call for articles for special issue of the Victorian Historical Journal

The RHSV gratefully acknowledges the support from the Estate of the Late Edward Wilson to produce two journals. Edward Wilson was a journalist of distinction and proprietor of *The Argus*. Members will find it interesting to read his Australian Dictionary of Biography entry by Geoffrey Serle.

In June 2013 the Victorian Historical Journal will be a special issue devoted to the history of the media in Victoria. Articles about Victorian media from the *Port Phillip Gazette* to *The Monthly* to the blogosphere are welcome. Submissions should be sent to the office office@historyvictoria.org.au attention journal editor. Guidelines for authors are available at www.historyvictoria.org.au.

We note below relevant items sent to the Society. Interested groups or authors are invited to contribute to this valuable service to members in *History News* and through possible deposit in the library. Some items may later be reviewed in the *Victorian Historical Journal*.

University Unlimited, The Monash Story

Graeme Davison and Kate Murphy

Allen & Unwin, Sydney, 2012, pp. 416, \$35

Monash University was established 50 years ago and the authors were commissioned to produce this very readable, well-illustrated, thoroughly researched history that not only tells the 'Monash story' but also much about changes in Australian society, politics and education since its inception in the early 1960s. Monash and the wider community have been very well served indeed. This should not surprise us given the considerable skills of Davison, one of the great practising historians in Melbourne, and Kate Murphy, his collaborator, has undoubtedly established her credentials too. A very impressive institutional history with a sure grasp not only of Monash's story, but of much wider histories. It probably sets a new benchmark for such works.

Chinese Doctor James Lamsey & Lady Jane of Bendigo

Carol Holsworth

Friends of Bendigo Cemeteries Inc., Bendigo, 2012, pp. 82.

This very thoroughly researched book begins with a puzzle about two tombstones in the Bendigo cemetery for Jane Lamsey. Solving the puzzle involved wide-ranging investigation of sources to uncover the lives of James, a successful Chinese medical man unable to obtain registration in Victoria and Jane, his European wife. A most engaging text coming from Carol Holsworth whose studies of the Chinese in Bendigo continue to enlighten.

Chewton Then and Now, A series of studies investigating change over time in the former Mount Alexander Goldfield town of Forest Creek, later known as Chewton

Ken McKimmie

Deniliquin Newspapers, Deniliquin, 2011, pp. iv + 144, \$30 + postage, available from kjmckimmie@bigpond.com P0 Box 61, Castlemaine, 3450

As the sub-title suggests, the author examines 50 Chewton sites for the changes over time. Attractively presented with excellent photos, maps and illustrations, with an accompanying text that shows the depth of the research behind each study. A very worthy model of its kind.

Sharing Bonegilla's Stories

Bruce Pennay, , Albury Library Museum

PO Box 323, Albury, 2640, pp. 84

The Bonegilla story is a rich one that deserves to be told. The author has been responsible for a steady flow of interesting booklets that are well-designed, serious but accessible to a wide readership. This latest is a catalogue of an exhibition that involved storytelling from former residents on the themes – first impressions, growing up, working life, what did people do all day?, making Australia home, followed by comments from the visitors' book and commentary from the professionals involved in 'looking after and sharing Bonegilla stories, memorabilia and buildings'.

Darebin's Great War, An Overview, A Tribute to those from the Darebin district that Fell in the Great War, 1914-18

Brian Membrey (compiler)

wwiresearch@mail.com , [n.d.], pp. 49 + CD.

As World War 1 comes into its centenary phase, many areas have been compiling material about those from their districts who served. This booklet introduces the reader to the problems of compilation that spring from the sources as well as the defining of the district. The massive compilation of over 700 men (and 2 women) who died during the Great War is presented in the CD that contains details of each of these men and women. A monumental effort.

Catherine McMahon, A Remarkable Convict Women

Damian King & Liz Schroeder

Rosenberg Publishing, Sydney, 2012, pp. 320, \$29-95

Catherine McMahon, and her two husbands, John Copley and Thomas Day all arrived in Australia as convicts. Liz Schroeder is a great-great-granddaughter of Catherine and John, who has joined with Damian King to research and write an account of the lives of her forebears, tracing them from County Clare, Yorkshire and Southeast England via Van Diemen's Land to Victoria in the 1850s and settlement in western Victoria near Stawell. John also had a stint on Norfolk Island. This is a well-researched and written family history placed within the contexts of transportation, migration across Bass Strait, land selection, and the struggle for women's rights. Catherine died in 1906. Much more than a tribute to family ancestors.

A History of Baynton

Ken James and Noel Davis

Obtainable from 18 Lofty Avenue, Camberwell, 3124, 2012, pp. iv + 393

The authors have been actively publishing material about settlements in the Kyneton and Castlemaine districts. Their latest contribution details many aspects of Baynton's history. Baynton is a small settlement northeast of Kyneton. The chapters draw on material from school records, local newspapers, war records, and oral and written recollections, arranged in categories of schools, public institutions, war service, churches, organizations including the fire brigade, sports and recreation, and families. It is substantially illustrated and has a good index of names.

Coranderrk Database

Mick Woiwod (compiler) , Tarcoola Press in association with Wurundjeri Tribe Land and Compensation Cultural Heritage

PO Box 1232, Kangaroo Ground, 3097, 2012, pp. 242. ISBN 9780987157416. Available on demand and also on disc; *Birrarung Database*, Tarcoola Press in association with Wurundjeri Tribe Land and Compensation Cultural Heritage, PO Box 1232, Kangaroo Ground, 3097, 2012, pp. 318. Available on demand and also on disc.

Both these publications can be described as resource kits put together by the

compiler and detailing material about Indigenous people in the Yarra Valley or, in the particular case of Coranderrk, at Healesville. They represent a huge effort in collection, arrangement and interpretation and deserve to be widely used. The Coranderrk story and the part of the Victorian Acclimatisation Society in its demise is carefully documented and argued, and will be further aired in Woiwod's forthcoming *Barak and the Black Hats of Melbourne*. In such a vast enterprise there is bound to be the odd minor blemish, eg. 'Inga Glendinnen' for 'Inga Clendinnen'. A great achievement.

Humanity's Mirror, 150 Years of Anatomy in Melbourne

Ross L Jones

Department of Anatomy and Cell Biology, University of Melbourne, Melbourne, 2007, pp. xviii + 318

Conceived to mark the centenary of the Anatomy Department at the university, this very readable text is much more than that. Anatomy was taught from the University's inception and its importance in medical education, in the university itself (in 1901, medical students comprised more than half the university's population), in its contribution to debates in society about Darwinism and creationism, criminality and phrenology, and much more, are amply revealed in this thoroughly researched and elegant book.

Bandsan Vosti's Diary, War and Peace in Essendon, 1917-1920

Lenore Frost

PO Box 531, Essendon. 3141, 2012, pp. 196

A meticulous reconstruction of the Vosti family in Essendon that uses John Vosti's diaries as its centrepiece. The Vostis were originally from Ticino and settled in the Daylesford district. Playing in bands came down through the generations and John was a very active member of the Essendon City Council Band along with Les, his son. Both John and Les worked at the Cordite Factory in Maribyrnong. John kept a diary and those entries for 1917-20, slightly edited and published complete with extensive notes, convey the nature of life of a working family at the end and aftermath of the Great War. Les enlisted as a bandsman in 1916 and returned home in 1919 after short stints on the front as a stretcher-bearer. Very well illustrated with a full index and of considerable interest for local historians, as well as for its insights to day-to day living.

Lemnos 1915, A Nursing Odyssey to Gallipoli

Katrina Hedditch

Katrina Hedditch, 2011, pp. x + 194

In the Gallipoli campaign, the assembling point for Allied forces was Lemnos in the Aegean sea. Its importance in the campaign has been largely ignored by later writers. Similarly, according to the author, nurses and nursing have been inadequately covered. This book focuses on the history of Australian nurses especially on Lemnos in 1915 and especially on those who disproportionately came from western Victoria. Their stories are woven into an engaging narrative that conveys the hardships and difficulties of their war work. It is splendidly illustrated from photos taken from Lilian Malster's album. Malster came from Hamilton. An excellent addition to Great War history that brings light to a war site and a service that has been somewhat neglected.

Australia's Controversial Matron, Gwen Burbidge and Nursing Reform

Judith Godden

College of Nursing, Sydney, 2011, pp. xvi + 357, \$30 + 12-95 postage and handling

Gwen Burbidge (1904-2000) was a considerable force in the development of professional nursing in Victoria and the rest of Australia. Always very determined and hard-working, she was an enterprising reformer in hospital nurse training and wrote a widely-used textbook in 1935. She became matron of Fairfield in 1939 and retired in 1960. She was an active reformer in her own hospital and had wide influence on nursing issues outside, inspiring others, and always moving nursing to be a profession in its own right and complementary, but not subservient, to the medical profession. This is an excellent biography about a dynamic nurse and a substantial contribution to the history of Australian nursing.

Founding Brass, George Stewardson and Extruded Metals

Robin Stewardson

Robin Stewardson, PO Box 1051, Hawthorn, 3122, 2011, pp. x + 324

George Stewardson, the family patriarch and grandfather of the author, had a succession of ventures in founding and extruding metals, especially brass. Most of them had difficulties in funding and the family's fortunes fluctuated many times before his death in 1940. Ever resourceful and hard-working, he came to Melbourne in the 1920s after stints in New Zealand and Sydney, and subsequently established the firm, Brass Company of Australia with works at Maidstone. He wanted a family-controlled business and by the time of his death in 1940, the Stewardson family had a controlling interest. His three sons carried on a very successful business that benefited from the demands for extruded and rolled brass during the war. The firm was fully taken over by Delta in 1972 after a period of minority ownership. This is a careful investigation of a metal manufacturing business through changing economic times, changing technologies and with some of the inherent difficulties of a family business. Both the intricate financial and metallurgical aspects are clearly put and there is in addition, a substantial family history. Certainly a very worthwhile addition to our understandings of 20th century business.



Powerful, easy to use cataloguing software

Maxus ArtWorks

or

Maxus Collections for Museums

New version updated to latest Museums Australia (Victoria) cataloguing worksheets

For museums, galleries and historical societies



PO Box 727 South Melbourne Victoria 3205

Victoria's Collections preserved and shared online

Peta Knott Project Manager Victorian Collections writes:

Souvenir tea cups, historic photographs and war diaries, these are just some of the 5,000 cultural treasures that have already been uploaded to Victorian Collections by hard working collection custodians.

Victorian Collections www.victoriancollections.net.au is a free, online system that is an easy-to-use cataloguing system with the added benefit sharing these collections online. And it comes with free training!

Museums Australia (Victoria) and Museum Victoria have partnered together to create this system which is ultimately a template for organisations to input their data for safe keeping and sharing with the online world. All the collection information is securely stored on the Museum Victoria server but the intellectual property remains with the relevant organisation.

So far, Victorian Collections has been successfully adopted by 175 collecting organisations around Victoria, 41 of whom are historical societies. But the types of organisations using the system are as diverse as the range of collection items online. Fire engines and bonnets, paintings and school caps, letters and coolamon dishes have been catalogued by community museums and keeping places, school and church archives, military and service groups, art registers and sporting clubs.

“Kiewa Valley Historical Society has used Victorian Collections since November 2010 and has found it very useful and easy to use, with over 100 items catalogued on our site. The members that attended Victorian Collections training are now able to educate others in our society.”

– Karen Wykes, Kiewa Valley Historical Society

Some organisations are using it exclusively as their cataloguing system as they have just started cataloguing or their previous system was no longer of use. Some organisations are using Victorian Collections to show off their most significant items and are only cataloguing a certain portion of their collection online. They recognise the importance of being present in the online world

and also appreciate being part of a large group which can network and exchange information and collections.

“The major benefits of using Victorian Collections are that it gives a public face to the society and its collection, allows quality electronic catalogue entries, is accessible world-wide and is maintained by Victorian Collections staff at no cost to the Society”.

– Sue Ballantyne, Greensborough Historical Society

Over 500 people have taken advantage of the free workshops available to those using Victorian Collections. These sessions are held around Victoria and assist users in learning cataloguing, research, computer skills and how to use Victorian Collections. Go to <http://www.mavic.asn.au/services/victorian-collections/workshops> to find a workshop near you.

The networking opportunities of workshops are of great benefit to Victorian Collections' users, but cataloguers are also able to go it alone. Thanks to the feedback from our users over the last 18 months the system is very user-friendly which combined with the Museums Australia (Victoria) resources page <http://www.mavic.asn.au/resources> provides a raft of excellent resources to guide a new or slightly rusty cataloguer. There are templates and information sheets and links to the *Small Museums Cataloguing Manual (4th Edition)* and the *National Standards for Museums and Galleries*. And finally, cataloguing and computer support is only an email or phone call away info@victoriancollections.net.au 1800 680 082

While we have 175 organisations using the system and 5,000 items online, the site is by no means finished. We are constantly receiving feedback (both positive and negative!) about Victorian Collections and we consider all user suggestions in the long term plan of improvements. Due to popular demand

we have added a valuation section, to be completed where appropriate, and soon it will be possible to sort records and print out reports. As is typical of newly developed technology, there is always a glitch or two to keep the technical staff busy! Our users don't hesitate to give us their feedback as is shown by comments from Greensborough Historical Society.

“The catalogue generally works well and most teething problems have been addressed. The generous loan of a modem has allowed us to catalogue at our Resource Centre, rather than in members' homes, and tided us over until we could financially support an internet connection”.

Searching is one of the main areas that will be shortly improved. Searching capabilities will move beyond the current keyword searching with an organisation or across all collections. Soon, cataloguers will be able to perform advanced searches finding items by donor, storage location, date and manufacturer to name a few possibilities. In the public sphere, Sharing your collections on Victorian Collections will soon also mean that your collection is searchable through the Culture Victoria's collections search and the National Library of Australia's TROVE database. It will be an excellent collection management system and research tool which will make our shared stories accessible to everyone.

In this increasingly online world where everything will be connected to the internet, I invite you to be part of the innovative cataloguing system Victorian Collections. See how we develop and grow and how we can help your collections develop and grow. Peta Knott, Project Manager, Victorian Collections info@victoriancollections.net.au

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

Volunteer Grants 2012

Volunteer Grants 2012 recognises the valuable work of Australia's volunteers. This initiative forms part of the Australian Government's ongoing commitment to organisations whose volunteers assist disadvantaged communities and encourage inclusion of vulnerable people in community life.

Funding of \$16 million is available to support and encourage volunteering. Eligible not-for-profit community organisations can apply for grants between \$1,000 and \$5,000. Funding is limited and applications will be assessed and prioritised according to how strongly they meet the selection criteria.

Applications close 25 July.

Further information at: www.fahcsia.gov.au or by phoning 1800 183 374

Victorian Community Foundation – Holsworth Local Heritage Trust

Historical Societies in Regional Victoria are encouraged to apply to the Holsworth Fund to support the production of publications.

Funding of up to \$2,000 is available for the publication of works on any specific or general local history in Regional Victoria.

The grant is not intended to benefit individual authors or large organizations. Small organizations with little or no experience of self publishing work will be encouraged. Joint projects encompassing several groups or annual/self edited journals incorporating submitted historical articles from a wide community are encouraged.

Previous recipients include:

Maryborough Field Naturalists Club, Linton & District Historical Society, Tatura & District Historical Society, Mornington & Peninsular National Trust, friends of Bendigo Cemeteries Inc.

On line applications are encouraged at:

<http://www.anz.com/personal/private%2Dbank%2Dtrustees/granting/granting/granting%2Dprograms/small%2Dgrants/>

For more information, application guidelines and forms go to ANZ Executors and Trustees on 03 9273 6799 or free call 1800 808 910

Applications close 31 July 2012

HISTORY VICTORIA SUPPORT GROUP – RHSV

Seminar Saturday 4 August 2012

RHSV 239 A'Beckett Street Melbourne

Working with Family History Groups

- 10 a.m. Registration and cup of tea for those who have travelled from afar.
- 10.30 **Kate Prinsley**, Executive Officer, RHSV: "What's on at the RHSV".
- 10.40 **Tony Arthur**, President Genealogical Society of Victoria
- 10.45 **Lenore Frost**, Convenor, History Victoria Support Group, RHSV.
"Positive ways in which historical societies and genie groups can work together".
- 11.00 **Joan Hunt, FRHSV** "Local and Family History in England and Victoria - working together".
- 11.45 **Susie Zada**, GSV "Joint grant applications"
- 12.10 **Panel session:** Questions and comments from the floor.
- 12.30 **LUNCH**
- 1.30 **Jenny Coates** "Organising a remote indexing project".
- 2.00 **Alleyn Hockley**, "Indexing Contracts".
- 2.30 **Dr Jenny Redman** "Essay about an Ancestor"
- 2.40 **Faye Vandyk**, West Gippsland Genealogical Society, "Encouraging collaboration with Genies and Historians".
- 2.50 **Announcements:** Forums, Holsworth Trust, Banner Grants, Bookshop
- 3.15 Close of seminar, and a cup of tea before everyone heads home.

Costs: \$15 per head includes a light lunch and morning and afternoon tea. Please book through RHSV by notifying Ged by email office@historyvictoria.org.au or phone 9326 9288. Or book and pay online using our Trybooking system. Go to <http://www.historyvictoria.org.au/whats-on>

Bookings will close Wednesday 1 August. Please advise on booking of any dietary requirements.

Flagstaff Station is closed on weekends, but we are only a short walk from Melbourne Central Station, or there is all day parking available for \$4 on the corner of Queen St and A'Beckett St, Melbourne.

Generous donation received by RHSV

Recently the RHSV received a considerable donation from the estate of the late Archie Cowan (1938 -2011). Original artworks in pen and ink, plus many prints form the substantial portion of the donation. The RHSV's images team is now undertaking the collections management and indexing of this significant donation.

'Gowrie', 10 Ardmillan Road, Moonee Ponds, 2007 Archie Cowan (1938-2011), artist



AROUND the SOCIETIES

This column is compiled by Lenore Frost and Jenny Coates on behalf of History Victoria Support Group using information provided by societies either directly or contained in their newsletters. For the June 2012 issue please send details of forthcoming events by 10 May to lenore10@hotmail.com.

BALLARAT HISTORICAL: "Take it when you get a chance" was Lloyd Jenkin's admonition to members at the May meeting, encouraging members to use their cameras at every available opportunity to record the uniqueness of Ballarat's architecture and streetscapes. Members are also asked to tell the story of their house.

BAPTIST: "150 years of changes in patterns of leadership among Victorian Baptists", is the subject of a panel discussion to be led by Tony Cupit on Thursday 13 September, 7.30 pm at the Auburn Baptist Church, 597 Burwood Rd, Hawthorn. Enquiries: 9729 1752.

BENALLA: Help "The Untold Stories of Women of the Benalla District Project" with stories of your relative, who might have been a migrant at the Hostel, or who served in the war, joined the Land Army, had a business, or other interests. Forms are available from the historical society, family history group, or the Benalla Library. See <http://home.vicnet.net.au/~benmus/>.

BENDIGO: A booklet, *Melbourne to Bendigo Railway 1862 – 2012*, will be launched on 21 October at the Victorian Railway Institute building in Mitchell Street, following a re-enactment of the 1862 opening by Victorian Governor, Sir Henry Barkly, at the Bendigo Railway Station. The re-enactment will involve Society members, railway officials and the Bendigo Brass Band. Enquiries: info@bendigohistory.com.

BOX HILL: Betty Walters and Tom Thorpe OAM, two former Mayors of Box Hill, will be the guest speakers on Thursday 19 July, talking about their time on Council. Meetings are held in the Strabane Chapel Hall, 29 Strabane Ave, Mont Albert North, at 8 pm. Enquiries: 9285 4808.

BRIGHTON: As part of the Bayside Literary Festival, the society will host a talk by Robin Floyd on Olga Ernst (later Waller) on Sunday 15th July at 10.30 a.m. Olga wrote *Fairy tales from the Land of the Wattle* in 1904 at the age of 16. After her marriage to William Waller in 1929 she lived in Brighton. See www.brightonhistorical.org.au.

CAMBERWELL: Professor David de Kretser, AC, will be the guest speaker at the meeting to be held on Tuesday 24 July at the Ashburton Library Meeting Room, 154 High St, Ashburton, at 8 pm. His subject will be "Recollections of living in Camberwell". Enquiries: enquiries@chs.org.au.

CAMPERDOWN: The society has unveiled a new web site that is full of excellent photos. Read the blog, find out how to research at the society or see what events are planned. Check out the DVD for sale, *Historic Short Films of Camperdown*. If you have research interests in the area this site is a real treat. www.camperdownhistory.org.au.

CINEMA: The annual CATHS Cine Collectables Fair will be held on Sunday 29 July from 9 a.m. at the Seddon Scout Hall, Bellairs St, Seddon. There will be an auction between 10.30 and 11.00. This is your opportunity to support the society and pick up a bargain: cost \$5. See: http://www.caths.org.au/2012_04_events.pdf.

CHELSEA: The society had in its collection for 40 years the square collar from a naval rating uniform from the German warship *Emden*. Realising the significance, the society has donated it to the Australian War Memorial. There were three German warships of that name, and further research may reveal which one it was from.

CHURCHES OF CHRIST: The *Historical Digest* for May 2012, issue 175, carries a very entertaining article by Kerrie Handasyde on "Photos of the harvest: Art and Iconophobia", exploring the artistic displays of fruit and vegetables for Harvest Thanksgiving in a church which had a phobia of any artistic display in the church. Enquiries: history@handasyde.com.

CLUNES: The Museum is undergoing redevelopment. The Hepburn Shire Council received a \$2.7 million grant for a Clunes Community Interpretive Centre, which will include the museum. The collection is being packed up by volunteers for storage, and limited research facilities will be available at the Clunes Health Service during redevelopment. Enquiries: 5345 3592, or see <http://www.clunismuseum.org>.

COBURG: The Friends of Coburg Cemetery, in collaboration with the historical society, is undertaking a major research project on Coburg's WW1 soldiers. If you can help with information on those who were born, lived in Coburg, or were buried at Coburg Cemetery, contact Cheryl on cag1@iinet.net.au or PO Box 54, Brunswick 3057.

COLAC: On Saturday 28 July Norman Houghton will speak on "Railways of the Otways", and on Saturday 25 August Rob Wuchatsch will speak on "Rabbit Farms in the Western District". Meetings are held at the COPACC History Centre, Colac at 1.30 pm. Enquiries: 5232 1624.

CRANBOURNE: At a Christmas in July dinner at the Sports Club, Tooradin on Thursday 26 July, Heather Arnold will give a talk on "History of the Koo-Wee-Rup Swamp". RSVP to Barry or Polly on 5998 3454 by 20 July. The dinner costs \$25 per head, and starts at 6 pm.

DONCASTER-TEMPLESTOWE: At the monthly meeting on Wednesday 1 August, Anne Miller will talk on "Titanic – 100 years on", with reference to more modern disasters. Meetings are held at Schramm's Cottage, Rieschiecks Reserve, Victoria St, Doncaster at 8 pm.

DUNOLLY: The April 2012 issue of *Tailings*, the newsletter of the Goldfields Historical and Arts Society, has an interesting photograph of the Old Dunolly Hotel. The hotel was originally the homestead of squatter Archibald Campbell McDougall. The article includes a list of licensees of the hotel.

EAST MELBOURNE: Terence Lane, former Senior Curator, Australian Art, NGV, will discuss "The Vanishing Sculptures" of the Fitzroy Gardens, and what became of them. The meeting will be on Wednesday 15 August at Clarendon Terrace, 210 Clarendon Street, East Melbourne, commencing at 8 pm. Entry fee: Members free; non-members \$5.

ESSENDON: A "Fireside Reading" will be held on Saturday 21 July, at the Old Moonee Ponds Courthouse, cnr Mt Alexander Rd and Kellaway Ave, at 2 pm. The theme this year will centre on courtship and matrimony, and is titled, "For Better or Worse": donation \$10, afternoon tea included. Enquiries: 9370 4607.

FLINDERS: In the Autumn-Winter 2012 issue of *Local History News*, two articles explore the change in the local landscape. Linda Patrick with "Changing Landscape and Land Use" and Christine Major on "The Pristine Landscape" look at the landscape as it was, and what changes were wrought by European settlement. Enquiries: 5989 6562.

GEELONG: On Wednesday 1 August, guest speaker Jerry Bell will give a talk on "The Humble Match". Meetings commence at 8 pm at the Morrow Theatre, 51 Lt Malop Street, Geelong. Enquiries: 5278 3530 or caracaradoc@bigpond.com.

HAWTHORN: Ken Bethell will be talking about "John Beswicke, Heritage Architect" at a meeting to be held on Thursday 19 July at the Hawthorn Library, 584 Glenferrie Rd, Hawthorn, starting at 7 pm. The event is free, but bookings are required, on 9278 4666.

KILMORE: The "Petition to establish a Municipality for Kilmore" has been added to the online indexes page of the society website. Other indexes include the 1928 Kilmore Telephone Exchange list, and a list of Kilmore District WW1 soldiers and nurses. See www.kilmorehistory.info.

KNOX: The society, in conjunction with the Boronia and Bayswater RSLs, the City of Knox, the Outer Eastern Vietnam Veterans' Association, and MP for Aston, Mr Alan Tudge, is starting a project to commemorate the war dead of the City of Knox. *Knox Historian*, Vol 2 2012, outlines the scope of the project. Enquiries: 9758 6722.

LEONGATHA: A Shire grant has enabled the society to install gas heaters in their Mechanics' Institute rooms at McCartin St, Leongatha. Rearranging the displays near the heaters is necessary, and a shipping container has been acquired as a storage facility. Enquiries: leongathahistsoc@yahoo.com.au.

LAKES ENTRANCE: Scott Bennett, born in Bairnsdale, traced the story of his great uncle Ernest Lee who joined the AIF aged 14, and was feted on his return as a hero of Pozieres. However, Scott learnt that Ernest had probably been in gaol for sleeping at his post at the time of the battle. The story is published as *Pozieres – The Anzac Story*.

LIGHT RAILWAYS: Enjoy "Jazz on the Puffing Billy" with live music and local wines on the night train and dinner at the Nobelius packing shed on Saturday 4 August. The fare is \$99 per head, bookings 9757 0700 or online at the Puffing Billy website.

MAFFRA: The society combined with the Stratford society to publish two sets of notes on dairy factories in the former Avon Shire. These are comb bound, of about 45 pages and cost \$9 each. Write to PO Box 321, Maffra 3860 and add \$2.00 each for package and post. See www.maffra.net.au/heritage.

MALVERN: There will be a presentation on conserving your family photos at the Stonnington History Centre on Wednesday 12 September. Further details: 8290 1360, or <http://www.stonnington.vic.gov.au/explore-stonnington/history/>

MORDIALLOC: The Museum is to undergo extensive improvements including a toilet suitable for the disabled, a new ceiling upstairs, a new floor in the oven room, carpet, tiles and general improvements. The collection will be stored for safety during this period. It will take some months before everything is restored. Enquiries: 9583 5553.

NEWSTEAD: The late Adrian Haas (author of *Newstead Mechanics' Institute: its role in the life of a central Victorian community*) was working on a book about four early murders before his untimely death. With assistance from Adrian's son and wife, the society hopes to publish the volume shortly. Contact: <http://home.vicnet.net.au/~newdhs/>

OAKLEIGH: The exhibition at the Monash Federation Centre, 3 Atherton Rd, Oakleigh, from July through September is "Railways East". A local history seminar will be held there on Sunday 5 August, at 2.30 pm. Enquiries: 9563 2823 or email oakhist@monlib.vic.gov.au.

QUEENSCLIFFE HISTORICAL: "Aprons – His & Hers" – a winter display every day, from June to October, 2-4 pm in the Queenscliffe Historical Museum, Hesse Street, next to the Post Office. See a wide collection of aprons including one owned by Mrs Ann Armstrong, daughter of the first Post Master, Charles Dod.

RICHMOND: Robin Droogleever will speak at the society's meeting on Sunday 23 September at 2.30 p.m. at the Richmond Library. Author of *That Ragged Mob*, a record of Victorians who served in the Boer War, Robin will discuss the research process in creating his publication. <http://home.vicnet.net.au/~rbhs/>

RINGWOOD: On Tuesday 24 July Norm Hutchinson will speak on the "History of Bourke Street West, Melbourne". Meetings are held in Room 4, Federation Estate, Greenwood Ave, Ringwood at 8 pm. Visitors welcome, supper afterwards. Enquiries: 9876-4367 or see www.rhs.org.au.

ROMSEY-LANCEFIELD: A Family History Day at the Lancefield Courthouse is planned for Sunday 5 August, 10 am to 4 pm. This is a great opportunity to research your family, contribute your valuable research to the society, or just to enjoy this lovely old building. See: <http://www.lancefieldcourthouse.org/>

SANDRINGHAM: A book entitled *The Street Where you Live* is currently undergoing editing and is due for release in July. Enquiries: 9597 0985 or see www.sandringhamhistorical.org.au.

SEYMOUR: The *Historical Society News*, June 2012, tells the story of the unscheduled stop at Seymour made by the Duke and Duchess of York in 1927 as they returned on the train from Canberra to Melbourne. They were greeted by 5000 people, including 600 children and returned soldiers displaying campaign medals.

SNAKE VALLEY: The Snake Valley-Carngham Branch RSL is appealing for the names of locals who served in the WW2 and other conflicts, which they plan to add to the WW1 Memorial. Please let them know of anyone who should be added. C/- Snake Valley & District Historical Society, Post Office, Snake Valley 3351.

SOMERVILLE-TYABB: On 16 July the first trees of a new Avenue of Honour were planted along Station Street, extending to Jones Road. The red-leafed Manchurian Pears replace plane trees planted as a War Memorial in Eramosa Road East in 1919. These trees were removed for road widening in the 1970s, the plaques lost, and the trees never replanted.

WARRANTYTE: In putting together an exhibition of pottery from Potters Cottage, the society discovered that it did not have a fully representative collection of local potters, either past or present. The committee decided to acquire further Potters Cottage works, and would like to hear from anyone who can donate, or possibly, sell a piece for their collection. Enquiries: valpol@hotmail.net.au or phone 9844 3086.

WHITTLESEA: Britain's first Olympic champion, Launceston Elliot, who won a medal for a super-heavyweight one-handed lift with dumb-bells in the 1896 Athens Olympics, eventually settled in Whittlesea where he died in 1930. Research by members led to the British Olympic Committee erecting a new headstone at the Fawknor Cemetery. See *Newsletter* No. 15.

WOADY YALOAK: An excursion to Whim Holes, Little Hard Hills, Misery Creek, Piggoreet and Golden Lake will take place on Sunday 16 September. Meet at The Well, Smythesdale, 10.30 am, and BYO picnic lunch.

WOODEND: The society intends updating its past Woodend Walk publication, and also to publish a series of short walks that can be taken separately or together. New information and updated illustrations will be needed. If you are interested in the project, call the Centre on 5427 3361 or call in on a Wednesday to discuss your ideas.

History

NEWS



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
ABN 36 520 675 471
Registration No. A2529
Office Hours: Monday to Friday
9am to 5pm
Library Hours: Monday to Friday
10am to 4pm

ESTABLISHED 1909

President	Andrew Lemon
Executive Officer	Kate Prinsley
Administrative Officer	Gerardine Horgan
Local History Officer	Laura Frost
Volunteer Co-ordinator	Christine Cooze

Design and Artwork: John Gillespie 0419 135 332
Printed by: Igroup 9552 8000




The RHSV acknowledges the support of the Victorian Government through Arts Victoria

Items for publication should be sent to the Executive Officer, RHSV
email: office@historyvictoria.org.au
Copy closes 10th of the month

PRINT POST APPROVED PP336663/00011
ISSN 1326-2696