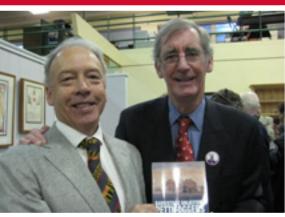


History MEMS

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Issue No. 315 December 2014
Royal Historical Society of Victoria



















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From the Editor's Desk

Our front cover celebrates a year of achievement of which we can all be proud. Local societies outdid their past efforts in a wonderful History Week. Local historians produced a fabulous crop of books, celebrated at the Victorian Community History Awards, where Gideon Haigh gave an inspiring talk. You'll find that in this issue.



The RHSV too has achieved much. We have set up a new online bookshop with a presence at the Drill Hall. We've put Judge Willis' Casebooks online. Our exhibition, The Australian Red Cross in the Great War, has attracted much interest and our conference, The Other Face of War, was standing room only! At the national level, our President, Don Garden, returned to the presidency of the Federation of Australian Historical Societies, Cr Judy Smart has become a vice-president of the Federation, and our own Joan Hunt received a Merit Award at the recent AGM in Hobart.

We've also found room for some particularly interesting features. George Fernando tells of the extraordinary career of one outstanding local historian, Warrnambool's Les O'Callaghan, and Ron Wiseman tells how the Hopetoun and District Historical Society presents their early homestead.

By the time you get this, we will know the outcome of the election and, let us hope, begin to have a clearer idea of the future of the Drill Hall and the RHSV's tenure there! Be alert but not alarmed, at least not yet!

Have a wonderful holiday season. See you in 2015.

Chips Sowerwine

The RHSV will close from Tuesday 23 December -Monday 12 January. We wish you all a happy, healthy and safe holiday season.







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ROYAL HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF VICTORIA INC.

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FEDERATION OF AUSTRALIAN HISTORICAL SOCIETIES AGM

Don Garden Elected President

Every state body in Australia sent representatives to the FAHS AGM, held in Hobart in October.

Don Garden was elected President and Judy Smart Vice-President. Joan Hunt received a Merit Award

The RHSV was represented by Richard Broome (for the first time), Judy Smart (who was re-elected a vice-president), and Don Garden (who was elected President, a position he held from 1996 to 2000 and from 2008 to 2012. The event was a great success. All agreed on the FAHS' importance for the advocacy of history and heritage at the national level.

The FAHS elected Emeritus Professor Geoffrey Blainey a Fellow, with hearty approval, for his unparalleled contribution to historical writing and to the history movement in Australasia. Of special interest to RHSV members, our own Joan Hunt was granted a Merit Award with acclamation for her sustained services to the history movement in more than one state.

Joan has been involved in the community history movement for forty years and given leadership in local societies, regional organisations, the RHSV and the FAHS. Through a Churchill Fellowship to the UK in 1988, Joan studied how historical societies operate there. Her report helped shape the way Australian societies have evolved since then. She is a longserving member of the Ballarat, Dandenong, Linton and Woady Yaloak Historical Societies. She convened the History Victoria Support Group for six years, contributing substantially to the training and education of historical society members, with a particular emphasis on the collection and preservation of movable cultural heritage items. She is also recognised for her advocacy for the protection of built heritage in rural communities. The RHSV is proud that our national body has recognised Joan's achievements.

Launch of Judge Willis' Casebooks Website

On the 16 August, the Hon. Marilyn Warren, Chief Justice of Victoria, launched the long awaited Judge Willis website before an audience of sixty. Justice Warren pointed out highlights of Judge Willis' controversial career.

The Hon. Paul R. Mullaly QC, who has done so much to transcribe and annotate the casebooks and provide supporting documents, then spoke on the legal aspects of Willis' time in Victoria.

Janine Rizzetti, who is an expert on Willis' career, talked about his transnational judicial career.

The website was built by Jason Odering, formerly of the RHSV, through matching grants from the Edward Wilson Trust and from Paul Mullaly. It is available through the RHSV webpage.

Besides indexed casebooks with original scans, Paul Mullaly's transcriptions and other supporting materials, it has a 2000name index of those involved in the cases. Podcasts of the launch and an ABC 'Conversation Hour' discussion of the site with Janine Rizzetti and Cr Richard Broome are at:

www.historyvictoria.org.au/willis/index.html

INCLUDED WITH THIS MAILING: Victorian Historical Journal. banner grant application forms and souvenir Victorian Community History Awards 2014 booklet

EXHIBITION:

Cr Carole Woods, who curated the The Australian Red Cross in the Great War exhibition, here tells of its successful launch and gives special insight into the exhibition.

Impressions of an Exhibition

Continuing a tradition of vice-regal support for the Australian Red Cross, Mrs Elizabeth Chernov opened *The Australian Red Cross in the Great War* exhibition at the RHSV on Friday evening, 8 August.

Before some 70 guests, she spoke knowledgeably about the history of the Australian Red Cross, reminding us that it was founded in Melbourne by Lady Helen Munro Ferguson, wife of the then governor-general, in August 1914.

Adam Bandt, MP for Melbourne, also addressed the gathering; his office assisted the RHSV in securing an Anzac Centenary Local Grant, which made the exhibition possible. Adam spoke with emotion of the last picture in the exhibition, the appealing image of a girl dressed as a Red Cross nurse looking hopefully to the future.

Carole Woods, curator, thanked her RHSV team: Daisy Searls, designer, Jenny Coates, project officer, and David Thompson, installation specialist. Carole especially thanked Moira Drew, Red Cross archivist, who gave unfailing assistance, and Red Cross heritage volunteer Susan McDougall for her display of knitting from soldiers' pattern books of the Great War.



Kennington Red Cross Certificate, c. 1920, Courtesy of Australian Red Cross. Kennington is a suburb of Bendigo.

Images in the Red Cross memorial exhibition are linked by themes, and an explanatory banner introduces each section. As with the movements in Mussorgsky's *Pictures at an Exhibition*, the images are subject to personal interpretation. Many visitors offer individual insights arising from their own experiences. Thus a violinist relates to musicians featured in programmes for fund-raising concerts.

The exhibition culminates in the striking Kennington long-service certificate, which exemplifies a post-war time of memorials and mythology. The angel signifies the belief that the barbarity of war would be followed by the 'triumph of liberty' and a transcendental peace.

History Victoria Bookshop Now Open GREAT CHRIST

The RHSV is embarking on a new service. We have taken over the bookshop which Information Victoria ran successfully for many years but which has now been closed by the state government. The RHSV will continue this service with an online shop and in-house display to promote the local history writing of our state.

Over 40 people attended the launch and did some brisk purchasing on the day. They listened intently to Ms Maree Coote, who has a successful design studio and advertising agency, as she launched the website. Maree, herself a winner of the VCHA in 2012 for her book *The Art of Being Melbourne*, gave inspiring words about the importance of promoting local history writing.

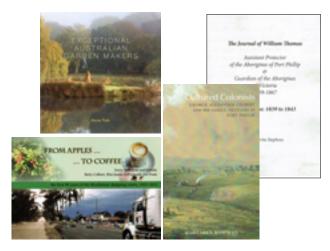
Thanks to Lenore Frost, Jodie Boyd and Helen Boak for a magnificent effort: they prepared the launch and created the site. So far, we have 138 titles listed and more are coming. Members and indeed anyone interested in local history can browse and purchase from the selection on display at the Drill Hall or find all available titles on our web site: http://www.historyvictoria.org.au/shop.

Some winning books from the recent Victorian Community History Awards are available both at the Drill Hall and online.

www.historyvictoria.org.au/shop

GREAT CHRISTMAS GIFT IDEAS

What better gift than a great read for summer. Check out the Victorian Community History Award winner *Exceptional Australian Garden Makers*, and these other category winners. Call into RHSV at 239 A'Beckett Street, City or purchase online at www.historyvictoria.org.au/shop





Support the RHSV through the RHSV Foundation

The RHSV is the peak body for local history in Victoria. For over 100 years it has been the innovator and leader in local history, helping members, historical societies, volunteers and the wider community engage with the rich history of Victoria.

The RHSV not only needs a permanent "History House", but also requires capital equipment and infrastructure. It needs more salaried staff to increase its programmes, conserve its collections, and play an even greater leadership role in engaging the community with history. Operating costs are met by grants and earned income, leaving little to invest for the future. Unless the RHSV can attract additional funding, its capacity to pursue these activities will be hamstrung.

In 2009 the RHSV established the RHSV Foundation to provide for our long-term goals. At the close of the 2013 Financial Year, the Foundation had accumulated more than \$240,000. Since 2009, half the interest has been devoted to projects such as the conservation of our painting *The Victorian Navy* (1888), the purchase of software for our online catalogues, and essential preservation activities.

The Foundation operates independently of the operating account of the RHSV. Funds are managed by a committee, answerable to Council, who advise on building capital growth without undue risk. Further information on the Foundation can be found in our Annual Reports (available at www. historyvictoria.org.au) or by phoning 9326 9288.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Dr Robert Barnes

We need your help to continue this work.

We are now seeking gifts to the RHSV Foundation

All donations to the Foundation, no matter their size, add to the total funds of the Foundation and help towards our long-term goals. The RHSV Foundation has Deductible Gift Recipient status (DGR), which may allow donors to claim a tax benefit.

Consider making a bequest to the Foundation in your will. We would welcome the opportunity to discuss with you, along with your executors, the long-term benefits your bequest would bring to the Society. Benefactors will be recognised in our Annual Reports, annual foundation event, and in our newsletters.

Please consider supporting the Foundation. Donations can be made by cheque made out to the RHSV Foundation, or by credit card over the 'phone, or by direct debit: ANZ – Royal Historical Society of Victoria - BSB 013 040 A/C 3475 70336.

If you would like to discuss the matter further, please ring our Treasurer,

Dr Robert Barnes, on 0412 548 920.

HISTORY WEEK 2014

Our member societies opened their doors during *History Week* and offered an amazing range of activities. During the week you could have:

- listened to talks on women engaged, enraged and often forgotten in some of the most iconic conflicts of our past;
- tried your hand in the Cobden Historical Society's Legendary Gumboot Toss;
- taken a fascinating walking tour to uncover Footscray's hidden stained glass treasures;
- enjoyed a family day out in the countryside at the Yarra Ranges Heritage Open Day, with live music, craft, wood turning, blacksmithing, children's activities, local food and more;
- learned some of the stories behind the headstones at the Donnybrook Cemetery, exploring the accomplishments and tragedies of the district's early settlers;
- uncovered the history of Melbourne's first road City Road - its importance, industrial architecture, Melbourne's tallest buildings and the current City Road Master Plan;
- glimpsed early farming practices and agricultural methods in one of Melbourne's original food bowl - the Plenty Valley;
- explored what remains of 1850s Malvern and early 20th-century Toorak homes built on the site of magnificent 19th century mansions;

- celebrated 100 years of the Red Cross in Australia with a stunning photographic exhibition most on public display for the first time;
- experienced 19th-century law and order with a rare tour of our heritage listed Supreme Court building, hearing stories from the archives and discovering judicial robes and wigs;
- experienced the lavish interiors, enjoyed a sparkling afternoon tea and learned about the history of one of Melbourne's most significant 19th-century mansions;
- toured the home of Victoria's first Governor, Charles Joseph La Trobe;

By taking part in the week you have helped to build local history and we thank you.

History Week is supported by the Vera Moore Foundation.

APPLICATION FOR 2015 BANNER GRANTS NOW OPEN

See the application form included with this mail out or refer to our web site http://www.historyvictoria.org.au/programs/history-week-banner-grant

HISTORY WEEK 2015 DATES: 18-25 OCTOBER



One of the earliest homesteads built in the Mallee, c. 1846

The Hopetoun and District Historical Society do a great job maintaining and presenting this historic homestead, the first in the Mallee. Ron Wiseman tells us what they've achieved.

Our Society is proud of the Lake Corrong Homestead. We hope others interested in local history will visit the homestead at 90 Evelyn Street, Hopetoun (between Horsham and Swan Hill). The Homestead is in McGinnis Park, a remnant of the original 500,000 acre Lake Corrong Station. Peter McGinnis and George Bell arrived in 1846 with 2100 head of sheep and built this simple homestead on the shores of Lake Corrong. Still on this original site, it is one of the earliest buildings in the Mallee.

The first two rooms are still in their original place; walls and roof are all original. Subsequently, the exterior was covered with corrugated iron for protection. Floor boards were fitted later. They may have been pit sawn at Dattuck Sawmill, some 15 km north of Hopetoun.

McGinnis Park has many other items of interest. Fully restored horse or bullock drawn wagons and tractors from the late 1920s and 1930s are displayed in a large machinery shed. Around the Park you will see horse works, strippers and harvesters, scoops and slush boxes, plus skimmer ploughs and scarifiers. One can still see the steam operated pump which lifted water from the locks into a flume to irrigate the experimental orchard, which consisted of 3000 fruit trees of all varieties, grape vines, and vegetables.

Of special interest is the first Police Gaol, erected in the late 1890s, which came from England in a flat pack. On the inside the boards are all numbered to facilitate assembly; the numbers are still visible.

The latest project is a succulent garden, a memorial to founding member Mr. Kevin Hatcher. This garden is being done with the assistance of the Hatcher Family and at the present time is half planted out.

All these projects were done by the volunteers of the Hopetoun and District Historical Society Inc.

The Homestead is a part of the Hopetoun and District Historical Society and is open by appointment. Contact the Secretary: 0488606136 or 33 Toole St. Hopetoun 3396.

Ron Wiseman, Secretary, Hopetoun and District Historical Society

Holsworth Trust Grants

Congratulations to historical societies which have received Holsworth Local Heritage Trust Grants for 2014.

Foster & District Historical Society – proposed project: a history of the district surrounding Wilsons Promontory.

Warracknabeal & District Historical Society – proposed project: a history of postal services and the Post Office in Warracknabeal.

Applications open on 1 March and close on 31 July each year.

Further information: www.historyvictoria.org.au/holsworth-local-heritage-trust 9326 9288 or kateprinsley@historyvictoria.org.au

Packed World War I Conference at the RHSV



The Hon. Ted Baillieu, MLA launching the RHSV conference.

The RHSV Conference, *The Other Face of War:Victorians and the Home Front*, began Friday evening 8 October, following the launch of *The Australian Red Cross in the Great War'* (see page 3): Dr Bart Ziino delivered the Annual Augustus Wolskel Lecture, 'At Home with the War: The Great War in Victorian Private Life'. This moving talk highlighted the themes that

RHSV's best conference yet!

emerged from the full day conference Saturday.

The Hon. Ted Baillieu, MLA, generously launched Saturday's proceedings, speaking to a hundred participants, who overflowed the mess hall lecture theatre (the conference was booked out). They were treated to eleven excellent papers on the theme of politics, loyalty and sacrifice.

Keynote speakers included Ross McMullin, who won this year's Prime Minister's Australian History Prize for *Farewell Dear People*, and Michael McKernan, whose new book, *Victoria at war: 1914-1918*, was launched the day before the conference.

Our volunteers provided a wonderful feast to sustain the troops through a long and exciting day. Many thought this was the RHSV's best conference yet. The papers will form the June 2015 issue of the *Victorian Historical Journal*.





Award winners with RHSV President Don Garden.

Victorian Community History Awards 2014

he RHSV has played a crucial part in the operation and maintenance of the Victorian Community History Awards since 1999. This year's awards ceremony in the Courtyard, State Library of Victoria, on 20 October, was a fitting climax to this year's competition, being well-attended by the more than 150 entrants as well as RHSV, Arts Victoria and PROV personnel.



Former RHSV President Andrew Lemon presiding at the Awards Ceremony

Andrew Lemon masterfully led proceedings through short speeches from Don Garden and Andrea Coote (representing Minister of Arts Heidi Victoria) and the inspiring address for the occasion by Gideon Haigh reproduced here. All emphasized the importance of community history, the involvement of individuals and groups in the making of the entries, and the importance of support from Arts Victoria as well as the SLV and PROV.

Justine Heazlewood, Keeper of the Public Records, announced the commendations and winners in each category. Each received a framed certificate. The winners made short speeches about their projects. Gideon Haigh announced the Community History Award winner, Anne Vale's excellent and superbly illustrated *Exceptional Australia Garden Makers* (like other prize-winning books, available through the new RHSV online bookshop).

This happy gathering of contributors to the Victorian history movement underlined the importance of the awards program, so carefully nurtured by RHSV stalwart Carole Woods over many years. It not only showcased the variety of community projects in the state but also the key role played by PROV in the management of a small grant from Arts Victoria that funded the program, including the employment of a project officer, in 2014 the highly efficient Jenny Coates. 'From little things big things grow'!

Happily, each year, the judges – who are provided by the RHSV - notice improvements in quality of entries across the range of categories.

Who can forget the delighted surprise of veteran author Margaret Bowman when she was named the winner of Small Publication for her *Cultured Colonists*; the multiple and highly commended entries from Ian Clark; the important publication by Marguerita Stephens of William Thomas's massive journal, winner of the Project Award; the strength of the entries in the History Publication Award won by Robert Kenny's investigative memoir, *Gardens of Fire?*

Don Gibb

Gideon Haigh at the VCHA

Gideon Haigh is well-known as a sports writer. He has just published Ashes to Ashes: How Australia Came Back and England Came Unstuck, 2013-14. He is also a distinguished historian in many other areas, author of The Racket: How Abortion Became Legal in Australia and Asbestos House: The Secret History of James Hardie Industries. We are proud to publish here the full text of Gideon's talk. I'm sure that, like those of us who were there, you'll find this talk inspiring.

ow there's nothing quite so tedious as speechifying when you're all sitting around seeing who's going to get the gongs, so instead I want to tell you a little story – a small data story in a big data world. At the moment, I'm working on a little book about a man convicted of murder called John Bryan Kerr – a handsome, articulate, educated, privileged young man who ended up on death row in 1950. It's a long time ago. Kerr lived, but not to tell the tale; indeed he conscientiously went about cultivating a new identity and severing all links with his past.

One of very few places he ever indulged in recollection was in prison correspondence with his parents, and in it on three or four occasions he referred fondly to a school friend, John Gundersen. What were the odds, I wondered, of finding what had happened to the friend of a John called John more than 70 years afterwards.

I asked the archivist at Scotch College to check his records. He could only tell me that John Gundersen joined the merchant navy in 1942; oh, his middle name was Arnold. This made it possible to find a birth certificate, the name of his mother and her death certificate, from 1959, after a long illness.

Surely at some stage he came back to Australia – maybe when his mother was unwell. Did you know ancestry.com allows you to search immigration records? Nor did I until a few months ago. Anyway, a quick squint and yes, there's my man Gundersen on the passenger manifest for an airliner from London in 1959. And what's this? There's an address where he'll be staying in Toorak, and the name of his host Nigel Tulloh.

To something older-fashioned. In Melbourne's *White Pages* there are three NTullohs. You know where this is headed, don't you? I get him first try. It's pretty hard to explain: I'm a journalist and I want to find out what happened to someone who stayed with him fifty-five years ago. Actually, MrTulloh warms to the idea because John is a most remarkable man. Is? Oh yeah, says MrTulloh: here's his email address. He's 90, nearly blind, and he's the number two man at Norway's biggest shipping line. And that's how I found someone called John who knew someone called John after the elapsure of more than seven decades.

Before Mr Gundersen sent me two long and fascinating emails, he asked me a question: how did I work out where to find him? I've just given you one side of the answer – one little step at a time. But the other side is by having thirty years' practice, developing a bit of a knack, a taste for exhausting every possibility, a faith that no alley is quite blind. The task is mainly thankless – you know that people will read your book without a clue how hard it has been to pin down and tease out a story, a fact, even just a date or a name. But how good is that feeling?

I was actually at PROV a few weeks ago sitting across from a well-dressed, well-to-do septuagenarian woman poring over a giant calf-bound ledger, while I went through a mess of inquests and probate files. We had been sitting there in our little cocoons of concentration for 20 minutes when she breathed a hearty: 'Yes!' I've no idea what she was looking at it, but I knew exactly what she was feeling. Oh yeah, the system works. The pieces fit. The cosmos is in order.

a small data story in a big data world

Now today's function is about honouring you, toilers in the vineyards of community and local history. All power to you. As Young Mr Grace used to say on Are You Being Served: 'You've all done very well.' I've been lucky enough to see several of the winning and commended entries in these awards and they are of outstanding quality, saturated with love and devotion. But, while we're here, let's also pay a reciprocal tribute, by recognising our good fortune in having two outstanding local institutions to foster inquiry scholarship. One of them we're in. I first came here in 1980, a spotty, skinny schoolkid from Geelong who wanted to look at some 19th century cricket magazines. I've researched all over, and I'm here to tell you that libraries come little better. Don't underestimate the value of the opportunity of being able to pull a book from a shelf or a microfiche roll from a draw yourself. This place has been accessible, transparent, accountable, userfriendly long before any of these became public service buzzwords.

I first visited PROV in 1990, when it was in the concrete pill box in Laverton, served by a bus that never seemed to come. I was looking at the records of Kew Asylum for traces of the cricketer Billy Midwinter, who had ended his days there, and I duly found them. Not difficult at all, yet at the time it seemed so inconceivably marvellous to be able to reach into and pluck from the past. It has incredible holdings.

A few weeks ago, I tried to obtain an inquest from the WA Coroner's Court. They told me – and get this –WA has destroyed every inquest in its history before 1986.

I blame Alan Bond. Or Laurie Connell. Voom. Up in smoke. 150 years of irreplaceable social history. That is gross vandalism. If I find the person responsible, there'll have to be an inquest afterwards.



Gideon Haigh at the Victorian Community History Awards Ceremony

Seldom have I felt so patriotic. My state, Victoria, does not pull that shit. This last year as I've researched my book, I've been able to peruse record series as diverse as rate books for Toorak and South Yarra, the 1921 miscellaneous correspondence file for the Sunbury Hospital for the Insane and the 1945 Petty Sessions verdict book for Colac. I've read police service records from the 1920s, theatrical programmes from the 1930s, personnel records for the Navy Office in the 1940s, Crown Law Department files from the 1950s. I've listened to a 60-year-old interview with an actress, a 60-year-old Christmas homily recorded in Pentridge Prison. I've searched Harbour Trust files for the comings and goings of a ship in 1949 so I could get dates exactly right; I've perused medical records for a schizophrenic institutionalised for more than 50 years. And I'm not going to tell you what I found in VPRS 264/P1, unit 22 and VPRS 1100/P0, unit 16 because it's just too damn exciting.

Anyway, perhaps the survival of these records testifies to benign neglect rather than active preservation, but there's a lot to be said for just leaving stuff as it is and looking after it.

Now, these are great days to be researching locally. Remember when it used to be cool that Sands & McDougall was on microfiche in the State Library. Now you can search electoral rolls online at Ancestry. com, rove Trove for nearly 400 million Australian records and resources. It's mind boggling how far your finger tips can take you in a few seconds. Not so long ago I should never have found Mr Gundersen. I would have pined away in ignorance of his existence. Modern research is a daily miracle.

But certain actualities still hold true. Old-fashioned instinct, unreconstructed diligence, unbounded curiosity – these are still prerequisites of the work we salute today. And the fact is that for the foreseeable future, historical research is going to be a document heavy, labor intensive business – for that reason, we will need agencies of the state that honour their heritage.

Like I said, we're fortunate in Victoria, we have a good thing going. But we should take nothing for granted. Perhaps on this election eve, inspired by Andrew Lemon, we should be minting bumper stickers: 'I love local history – and I vote!' In the meantime, at any rate, good hunting, good writing, good luck, and, from another solitary toiler over the past, heartfelt congratulations.





Les O'Callaghan: A Hero of Local History

Les O'Callaghan has been Warrnambool's pre-eminent local historian for many years. No one has done more to preserve and promote Warrnambool's heritage.

As Secretary and then President of the Warrnambool & District Historical Society from 1974 through 2009 – a recordbreaking 35 years! – and he remains a life member and committee member. Since 1979, Les has been an active member of Flagstaff Hill Maritime Museum Committee of Management. And from



Les O'Callaghan with Dr Dennis Napthine, Premier of Victoria at the opening of HeritageWorks, Warrnambool in 2014.

1997 to the present, he has been active in the Warrnambool 150th Anniversary Celebrations Committee. He was a Foundation Member of the Society for Growing Australian Plants, Warrnambool Branch.

Leslie Alexander O'Callaghan was born 1st August 1918, in the village of Balmoral (between Horsham and Hamilton). In 1932, Les won a scholarship to Warrnambool Technical College. This led to a long career in industrial chemistry, working at Warrnambool Cheese and Butter and Nestles', before moving to Kraft Walker Cheese Company, where he remained for 45 years.

Les spends about 20 hours a week on Historical Society business and makes a very valuable contribution to the cultural life of the City. In addition Les has been on the committee of the Western Victorian Association of Historical Societies for many years and produced the newsletter for this group for 14 years and has recently been made a Life Member. He contributed biographies on George Rolfe and Henri Worland to the *Biographical Dictionary of the Western District of Victoria* and wrote several sections of the book *Tuuram*, including the section on artists of the Hopkins River.

Les has made significant donations to many worthy regional causes. One of the achievements of which he is proudest is helping Warrnambool to acquire the Minton Heron. Like the famous Loch Ard Peacock, it is a ceramic work of art which the Loch Ard was carrying to the 1880 Melbourne International Exhibition when it foundered off the Victorian coast in 1878. (F.H. Bruford included the Minton Heron in his painting, 'The Scene of the Wreck of the Loch Ard'. Bruford, an amateur painter, was the Warrnambool Customs Officer. Sent to the scene of the wreck to secure the cargo, he took his art equipment and recorded the scene.)

Les became aware that the piece might be up for sale. He helped raise funds (making a substantial donation himself). In 2007, the Warrnambool City Council bought the Heron. On loan to the Warrnambool Art Gallery, it is a companion piece to Bruford's painting and a testament to Les' work in preserving our history and heritage.

As History News goes to print we have received the sad news that Les O'Callaghan has died.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

HISTORY OR HERITAGE?

Within the RHSV we are currently discussing a new 'branding' slogan, and in particular whether it would work better if it features the term 'history' or 'heritage'. This is an interesting exercise as it goes to the heart of much of what historical societies do. To a degree the terms are interchangeable, but there are also differences.

Historical societies work in both history and heritage. We collect, preserve, record and distribute our history, but in doing so societies have accumulated large collections of 'cultural heritage' documents and objects that form a vital part of Australia's Distributed National Collection. We also work to protect and preserve our built and natural heritage.

History is about our heritage, and our heritage comes from our history. Societies 'do' both history and heritage, but which has more cachet and popular appeal for a slogan?

I have been talking to people about this subject, and both terms have their supporters and doubters. Some see 'history' as essentially what societies should focus on recording and publicizing, and be proud of it. They point out that a great deal of public entertainment is set within an historic context. Others fear that 'history' is mainly associated in the public mind with boring school history, and is generally not seen as very appealing or relevant.

'Heritage' is interpreted by some people as having dreary and old-fashioned connotations, but by others as a contemporary buzz-word that points to a major popular element of tourism and other public pastimes.

On a recent trip to New Zealand I made a point of looking out for the prevailing use of the terms and 'heritage' won hands-down, by a factor of about ten to one. Heritage is clearly very important in the tourism industry and the term is widely distributed across the country in encouraging visitors to historic sites. However, only rarely were 'history' and 'historic' used.

I have noted a similar pattern across Australia, too.

So, which is a more accurate description of what historical societies do, and has more relevance, popular appeal and cachet? The discussion continues and if you wish to make a contribution you can raise it in the RHSV forum - http://www.historyvictoria.org.au/forums

IS THE RHSV HISTORY?

By the time this edition of *History News* is published the Victorian election will be over and there may be some understanding of the possible future of the RHSV and other community groups at the Drill Hall. We are entering the election with the Coalition having failed to commit themselves to our future, but with strong support from Labor and the Greens.

If the Coalition is returned and the building is sold and we are forced out of the premises, the future of the RHSV will be insecure and under threat. If Labor wins or the Greens hold the balance of power, we will be holding them to their promises.

The RHSV will also be working to obtain, from whoever wins government, their continued support for the Victorian Community History Awards and the Local History Grants, neither of which is currently funded for 2015 and beyond.

The RHSV is planning an exciting programme for 2015 and we will continue to serve our members and affiliated societies in the preservation and promotion of our history and heritage.

I wish everyone a very happy Christmas and a highly successful 2015. Let History and Heritage triumph!

Don Garden, President

Books Received:

Authors, publishers and Historical Societies are invited to contribute books to the RSHV for the library and for consideration for inclusion in Books Received. Reviews by Don Gibb.

Khaki Crims & Desperadoes

Russell Robinson, Pan Macmillan, Sydney, 2014, pp. 314, \$32-99. ISBN 9781742614151.

A well-researched and written account of 1st AIF volunteers who had criminal records or connections and their subsequent performance. Not surprisingly many of these avoided service on the front line, had



frequent courtmartial appearances, high levels of desertion and being AWL, as well as time being treated for venereal diseases. A few gained considerable respect for their soldiering but scarcely any were redeemed. It is an account that reminds us that not all volunteers measured up to the traditional image of the digger. Some of the crims examined were Victorians including those connected with key underworld figures like Squizzy Taylor. Well-indexed and illustrated.

Wonderful Warrandyte - A Portrait

Valerie Polley, Warrandyte Historical Society, 2014, pp. 88. ISBN 9780992429102.

A beautifully presented community history with superbillustrations and a lively text that explore themes in the development

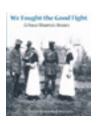


of Warrandyte with emphasis on the early contact period, the discovery and exploitation of gold, local creative artists, and the building of the current community with its strong sense of its past. A fine product from a local historical society. Commended in the 2014 Community History Awards as a Local History – Small Publication.

We Fought The Good Fight, Echuca Moama's Anzacs

Janet Hollingsworth and John Ferris, Echuca Historical Society, 2014, pp. vi + 298, \$35 + \$10 postage. ISBN 9780646592213.

Based on letters from the front as published in the *Riverine Herald*, this book literally deals with soldiers from the district who fought at Gallipoli in 1915, nurses, and Gallipoli veterans who fought in Light Horse regiments



in the Middle East. It is basically a narrative from outbreak to the evacuation of Gallipoli

using the local paper as the source for much of its story. Within that framework, life for the local boys at war as well as actions and reactions at home were covered with considerable emphasis on the backgrounds and subsequent war experience of those who left Echuca Moama. There is minor coverage of nurses and doctors from the area as well as some account of further action by local Light Horse men. The book underlines the value and importance of the local paper for studies of how the war was conveyed in local areas.

The Local Hall Nalangil

Dawn Peel, Colac and District Historical Society, 2014, pp. 48.

Local halls are important places in local communities. Their histories tell much about change and continuity in their districts. Nalangal's in the area between Lakes Colac and Corangamite illustrates this well. Opened in

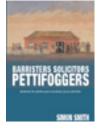


1899, it was the place for entertainments, debates and discussions, meetings, soldiers' farewells and welcome homes, dances, flower shows, fundraising functions, and polling at elections. In the post-WorldWar 2 period, use declined as population declined, people became more mobile and costs of maintenance became harder to meet with the eventual result that the hall was sold and dismantled, its site occupied by a CFA station

Barristers, Solicitors, Pettifoggers, Profiles in Australian Colonial Legal History

Simon Smith, Maverick Publications, Melbourne, 2014, pp. xii + 223. ISBN 9780646920559.

In this book, Simon Smith tells a good story about five lawyers who were 'struck off' in the colonial period before 1851. Horatio Nelson Carrington, Sidney Stephen, James Erskine-Murray, John Thurlow and William

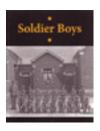


Thurlow all spent some time in legal practice in Melbourne. Their stories tell us much about pioneers in the making of the legal system in settler societies in the transition period from convict colonies to civil societies. They also tell us much about the workings of colonial society and the difficulties faced by professional men confronted by hostile judges; the lives of their families; their contributions outside the practice of the law. Their lives and careers have really never been examined before. They do not rate biographies in the ADB. There is much to commend in the author's resurrection of these men, usually dismissed as 'pettifoggers' and of little consequence.

Soldier Boys, The Militarisation of Australian and New Zealand Schools for World War I

Maxwell N Waugh, Melbourne Books, Melbourne, 2014, pp. 271, ISBN 9781922129451.

A thorough examination of the practices and precepts that helped to train Australian and New Zealand youth in the years before 1914. This book adds to our understandings of the role played by schools



and education departments in militarising boys. Waugh ventures that the Australian government used the nation's schools as venues for military training, recruitment and propaganda' and thereby had enough troops without recourse to conscription. This might be questionable but the assemblage from a wide range of sources and illustrations suggests the importance of schooling in explanations of dominant cultural attitudes to the war.

Pathways to Harrow 2012

Melanie Donovan (ed.), Harrow Bush Nursing Centre, pp. 23.

Comprises life stories of five diverse women who came to call Harrow home – a passionate Sydney-born community worker, a Punjabi-born farmer's wife, an Eastern European chef brought up in Adelaide, a Melbourne girl drawn to Harrow by a Beaut Blokes Event, and a young Melbourne mother looking for a tree change for her family.

Whistle to Whistle, The Coming of the Railway to Echuca, A Souvenir History Celebrating 150 Years of Rail from Melbourne to Echuca, 1864-2014

Echuca Historical Society, 2014, pp. 33. ISBN 9780992414931

A well-produced booklet about the early and important Melbourne-Echuca railway and its extension into the southern Riverina.

Coles

Stella Barber, Bounce Books, Melbourne, 2013, pp. 136, Book and DVD. ISBN 9780987371898.

Very much promotional material for Coles but with a solid text that establishes the innovative retailing practices of George Coles and his brothers, and other managers, from the first variety store in 1914 to the present nationwide giant with extensive interests in selling groceries, fresh food, liquor, petrol, and office supplies, now wholly owned by Wesfarmers. It contains enough to suggest that there is room for a great deal more historical work to be done in Australia on the history of shopping, the aggregation of businesses, the history of advertising and promotion, and the history of management.



AROUND THE SOCIETIES

This column is compiled by Helen Boak and Lenore Frost on behalf of the History Victoria Support Group using information provided by societies, either by email or contained in their newsletters. For the 1st February 2015 issue, please send forthcoming events for 2015 and your newsletters to office@historyvictoria.org.au by 10 January.

ANGLICAN: On any visit to a church or cathedral a point of interest is an examination of the plaques and memorials around the walls. St Paul's Cathedral in Melbourne has a rich offering, the best of which the Cathedral guides have copied and researched. Include a visit when you next visit the city.

AVOCA: At our 30th Anniversary the guest speaker challenged us to digitise the Avoca Mail newspapers for the National Library website, Trove. Thanks to generous donations the digitising of the first five years from 1863 to 1868 has commenced. To support our project donations can be sent to ADHS PO Box 24 Avoca 3467.

BALLAN: The Ballan Art and Craft Society will disband next year after their final Art Show at the Ballan Festival in March 2015. Items documenting the 40 year history of the Art and Crafts Society including photograph albums and memorabilia have been donated to us we will ensure that this local group's history will be preserved.

BROADFORD: Reported in *The Courier* 1916: School Children collected 1000's of leeches and sent them in ventilated tins in damp grass with the number of leeches on the parcel to Melbourne Hospital. The price paid to Schools Patriotic Funds was 5 shillings per 100. They were used for the treatment of soldiers' wounds.

BUNGAREE: Help is needed to locate the Wallace State School Honour Roll. If you are aware of its location please contact 5334 0297. We are also looking for families of local people who enlisted in World War 1, with a plan to unveil a commemorative memorial to them at the annual Anzac football match between Bungaree and Clunes.

CAMPERDOWN: Do you have contact with your local high school to utilise Work Experience students at your historical society? A Camperdown girl who volunteered with us is now studying for her Masters in Art History while working in history at Ballarat. Her advice to students "the best way to show you are enthusiastic is to volunteer".

CANTERBURY: Members who haven't yet gone to the excellent display on The Red Cross in at the Royal Historical Society at 239 A'Beckett Street, (very near Flagstaff Garden station) have until December 11 to see the display, which includes items of particular interest to Canterbury area. Open weekdays 10 - 4.

CARISBROOK: As part of our outreach program we visit other historical societies and learn as much as we can from these visits which we apply to our own activities. We are always willing to host other historical societies here and welcome invitations from other societies. Contact: cbkhistsocinc@gmail.com.

CARLTON: We have had many interesting subjects for our talks this quarter including "Too close to Call: Can local history and fiction work well together?" a presentation by author Brian Smith of detective/thriller novels with Carlton settings; and "House Names and Parapets in Carlton" by Felice Rocca a keen amateur photographer of Carlton's architecture and history.

CHELTENHAM CEMETERY: On Saturday 28th & Sunday 29th March, 2015 the public are welcome to visit the cemetery and join one of the tours we will be running. This special event commemorates our 150th Anniversary exactly 150 after the first burial and it will incorporate the 100th for Gallipoli. Contact: info@focrc.org.

DANDENONG: An article in *Gipps-Land Gate* has interesting information on the Bounty Immigration System. Port Philip received immigrants under the Bounty System to 'all respectable persons or businesses who applied for them'. To ensure better conditions on the ships the Captain, his Mates and the Surgeon were paid a bonus if passengers were well looked after.

DONCASTER-TEMPLESTOWE: This year was the 45th anniversary of the opening of Doncaster Shoppingtown on 30th September, 1969. Schramm's Cottage on Doncaster Road was moved to Victoria Street where it still stands today. A plaque mentioning the Tower, the Tram and the Corner store was erected at Shoppingtown. Where is that plaque today? Contact: 9848 3264.

ECHUCA: After 4 years of hard work and a visit from the team from Museums Australia (Victoria) we have Museum accreditation. The formal presentation was made at the 2014Victorian Museums Awards Melbourne Museum. Visit Echuca and view our achievement at the "free" Friday 11.30 am guided tour through museum. Contact: eh.soc@bigpond.com.

HASTINGS WESTERN PORT: Did you know? In 1880 Mr Furphy designed his first metal water tank to replace wooden barrels. It was mounted on a two-wheeled horse drawn frame. During WW1 the Furphy water cart was used by the Australian Army. The drivers picked up news on their rounds and circulated them as they moved around. They proved to be a fertile source of rumours and these became known as "furphies".

HEALESVILLE: After receiving a donation of 520 Rose series post cards enlarged and laminated for display we have set up a rotating display at the Healesville Bendigo Community Bank. There is also a continuous

photographic display in Reece's shop window and the story of the "Nook" at Queens Park. These are excellent examples of taking local history into the community.

HUNTLY: The society receives many enquiries every month with which we are delighted to assist. Recently we had University and TAFE students making use of our facilities, four different descendants enquiring about their ancestors and local families visiting our display. Contact: huntlyheritage@hotmail.com.

INVERLOCH: If you have any memorabilia, know where it can be obtained, or know of any servicemen from this area of Gippsland who served in World War One, please contact us at PO Box 46, Inverloch 3996 or email lindsayelvie@yahoo.com.au.

KNOX: Assistance is required to photograph surrounding areas that are rapidly changing. We particularly need to record the history in Wantirna, Scoresby around Rowville and Lysterfield before the planned changes take place. If you can help with any early or recent photos please contact the society. Contact: khs@relics.com.

KOROIT: The Society opens at Tower Hill Common School on the 2nd Sunday of each month 11.00 am to 2.00 pm and in November for the Koroit Show. The Lake School is open the first week in January and Koroit Irish Festival in April/May. Check dates on website http://www.visitkoroit.com. au. Note our new email address is: kdhs@gmail.com.

KYNETON: At our first meeting for the year on January 14 at 7pm we will visit the old Melville property at 41 South Lane, Kyneton. February brings us the Annual Cemetery Tour – meet at the gates at 6 pm where the guides for the evening will bring to life the stories of those within. Contact: Lst21865@bigpond.net

LAKES ENTRANCE: With assistance from Rotary, a consultant has been appointed to conduct a feasibility study into establishing a museum. The brief includes costings, suitability of a building, exhibition space and content, staffing levels and visitor numbers with the ultimate aim of developing a Museum that can run as a workable business.

LEARMONTH: A couple's conversion of a group of run down sheds and old bakery will lead to a study on adaptive reuse in relation to city planning, place making and tourism. Their property is an excellent example of retaining a humble colonial commercial enterprise and converting it to a useful historic building. Contact: davidandlois@ncable.net.au.

LILYDALE: Talks, tours and walks - anyone looking for a speaker or a different place to go should contact the society as we have several members willing to give talks about their area of special interest. These include Melba, aspects of Lilydale's township and its history,

Lilydale Cemetery, the Lilydale Express newspaper and Lilydale's military history. Contact: info@lilydalehistorical.com.au.

LORNE: The society has commissioned a "Collections Significance Assessment Report", to assist in the conservation, interpretation and management of their historical collection, a great initiative. The Lorne Lions Club has historically hosted "Carols on the Lorne", starting on the foreshore in the late 50's. This year's event starts at 6.30 pm on Saturday December 20. Information: ggallen.esq@gmail.com.

MECHANICS' INSTITUTE: Our halls were key venues in WW1 and are still central to community life. The school given to the village of Villers-Bretonneux largely funded by Victoria's school children contained an attached community hall, not unlike a typical Mechanics Institute. Check out a wealth of information and past newsletters on the website at http://home.vicnet.net.au/~mivic/.

MILITARY: Please visit us at our new Facebook site. Search for Military Historical Society of Australia (Victorian Branch) and click on the link. A new post is put up every few days. It is a place for both member and non-members who are interested in Australian Military history to post or comment.

MOE: A section of *Coach News* called "Letter Home" has an excellent example of the understatement of an Australian soldier when he describes how a "fifteen pounder" explodes and a bullet enters his shoulder leaving a "beautiful little puncture, a hole 2 ½ inches through". Contact: moehist@telstra.com

MT EVELYN: Exactly how many Aborigines fought in World War I is unknown - estimates are 500 to 1000. After comparing the Shire's booklet *Pride, Integrity and Honour, Massola's Coranderrk, a History of the Aboriginal Station*, the Badger Creek School Honour Board and the National Archives it was possible to add more names. If you can assist contact: historygroup@mountevelyn.vic.au.

NILLUMBIK: The precious family heirlooms recently donated for all to share and enjoy are now displayed at Ellis Cottage. We also have some mystery photos that need identifying. Come along to view these and much more at our open days on the first Sunday of the month, except January, from 2pm-4pm or by appointment. Contact: elliscottage@gmail.com.

PAYNESVILLE MARITIME: The interpretive signs along MacMillan Strait waterfront proved very popular, so we have completed another seven signs for installation along the beachfront between the yacht club and Sunset Cove. Come down and see them and also check out our Museum as shown on WIN local news http://youtu.be/pLjFRZ41fbo.

PORT MELBOURNE: In October we launched our new DVD, *Postcards from Port Melbourne* at the Emerald Hill Heritage Centre. A new way to present the history of Port Melbourne, the production was devised and scripted by a team of members. It was funded by a City of Port Phillip Cultural Development Grant, a Council grant and our own funds as well.

ROSEDALE: This year we celebrated 25 years of the Society in Rosedale with visitors with family connections to the district on our celebration day. The 2014 calendar featuring historic photos of the Rosedale district was very successful. This is a great idea for fundraising for other societies. Contact: rosedalehs@hotmail.com.

SANDRINGHAM: The society is very pleased to report their success in the 2014 Bayside Community Grants, highlighting the value of these grants to local history societies. We have now updated our version of the computer program used for cataloguing our collection, installed it and have it up and running.

SEYMOUR: Celebration of 50 years of the Society highlights the importance of local history groups. Members are concerned for the Old Goulburn River Bridge and are supporting the "Friends of the Bridge" to keep up the pressure on the Mitchell Shire council to restore it and construct a pedestrian or cycle bridge.

ST JOHN AMBULANCE:

Our speaker at the meeting on 22 January 2015 will present a collection of anecdotes and images on the Sunbury Pop Festivals of the early 1970's. Among the topics of interest will be an account of the experiences of the Field hospital emergencies. Contact: 0419 770 066

TRARALGON:

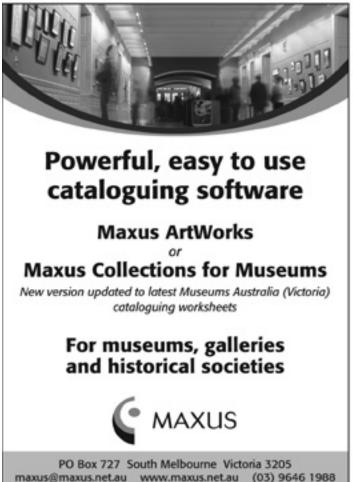
The Traralgon Public Cemetery minute books from 1914 until 1948 were burnt or lost. If you have any information about the functioning of the Traralgon Public Cemetery Trust, particularly for the years of 1914 to 1948 please contact: 5174 9071or send information to PO Box 1590 Cemetery Drive, Traralgon

WALHALLA: We have available a calendar for 2015 featuring many old photos taken from the mid 1930's – mid 1940's that are quite impressive. The calendars are available around the town or through the museum. We also have Santa Letters from the North Pole via Walhalla. Enquiries: walhallamuseum@activ8.com.au.

WARRANDYTE: Visit our Christmas Market Stall on Saturday 6th December 2014 8:30am-1:00pm at Stiggants Reserve. Our new book *Wonderful Warrandyte - A Portrait* will be presented along with photographs and publications, plus home-made jam and chutneys, made locally using Warrandyte grown fruits. Contact: whs.museum@optusnet.com.au.

WOADY YALOAK: Come to Smythesdale on the 3rd Saturday of the month and view our Historic Buildings and Museum and take a walk around the main street. We serve Devonshire tea to complete your days outing. The market is on the green in front of the stables and lockup. Contact: wyhs@vic.chariot.net.au.

YARRA GLEN: As very few of the Avenue of Honour trees at Dixons Creek planted in 1917 survived, due to natural attrition and the route of the Melba Highway, we plan to reestablish a new Avenue of Turkish Oaks in the Recreation Reserve. Sources of funding are being investigated, any assistance is welcome. Contact: yarraglenhistorical@live.com.au.



EVERY MONDAY



The Flagstaff Gardens 1858, by George Rowe. Courtesy State Library of Victoria

Tours of the Flagstaff Gardens every Monday

Join expert tour guides from the Royal Historical Society of Victoria on a walk through the beautiful Flagstaff Gardens—the historic heart of the City—every Monday at 11.00 am & 2.00 pm. Climb Flagstaff Hill to consider its place in Melbourne's topography and pre-European history as well as its early role as a burial ground, flagstaff signalling station and magnetic and meteorological observatory. An absolute "must do" walk for understanding the history and character of the city.

Meet at the Royal Historical Society of Victoria, 239 A' Beckett Street, at 11am & 2.00 pm

Duration: 75 Minutes

Free to Members; Non-Members \$10.00. Children under 16 Free.

Booking preferred: 9326 9288 email: 93269288

Walks will not be held Monday 22 December – Monday 19 January (inc)

1-4 December

Graduating VCA filmmakers Tim Gibson and Hayley Adams will present their short film *At Last*, set in the 1940s and filmed at Werribee Mansion. History News readers may be interested in the efforts of these filmmakers to produce a period film. See the ACMI web site for details.

TUESDAY 17 FEBRUARY

Writing an engaging family history or memoir: who do you think you are?

Speaker: Iola Matthews

Drinks: 5.15 **Lecture:** 5.45

Cost: Free to RHSV members. Non

Members \$10.00

Journalist and author Iola Mathews will give tips on researching, writing and publishing an engaging family history or personal memoir. She will illustrate this with reference to her two recent books, one about her pioneer ancestors—

Chequered Lives: John Barton Hack and Stephen Hack and the early days of South Australia—the other her memoir, My Mother, My Writing and Me.

Iola will discuss genealogy, research and resources, preservation of material and tips on writing style. She will also cover different forms of publication, from self-publishing to commercial publication. Iola believes everyone should leave behind something about themselves and their ancestors if they can, and there are now many different ways of doing this.

Iola Mathews OAM studied history at Melbourne University and was a journalist with *The Age* for many years. She is the author of *How to Use the Media in Australia*. Later she worked at the Australian Council for Trade Unions as an industrial officer and advocate. More recently, she established writers' studios at the National Trust property Glenfern in East St Kilda.

EXHIBITION

Monday 2 February – Friday 6 March

Postcards: Stories from the Mornington Peninsula

This is a collaborative exhibition involving the eight historical societies on the peninsula and overseen by Mornington Peninsula Shire. The project was developed with the assistance of a series of grants from the PROV, Museums Australia and Mornington Peninsula Shire. It was launched at the Sorrento Museum in June 2014.

It showcases the region's unique history through eight postcards from the collections of the participating local history organisations. Each postcard is the vehicle for a local history story augmented with related images and artefacts. Each society selected a postcard which highlights a particularly important aspect of their history. Flinders—its renowned guesthouses; Sorrento—its 'back beach tram'; Mornington—early train transport to their region; Rye—'activities on the foreshore'; Somerville—its apple orchards and industry; Hastings-its fishing industry; Balnarring—the Harley Davidson Club which had its early beginnings in the area; Dromana—the Arthurs Seat lookout.

In addition to the exhibition there is a fascinating audio visual and an online school education kit.

http://ourlibrary.mornpen.vic.gov.au/ Whats_On/News/Postcards_Travelling_ Exhibition

The exhibition has now been to four venues and at each venue there have been a wonderfully positive response.

This exhibition and DVD won the Judges' Special Prize for an outstanding entry in the Victorian Community History Awards 2014.



Coppin's steam train near its terminus at Black Beach, Sorrento (Rose Series P.298, Rose Stereograph Company, RHSV Image Collection – PC-0713)

Front Cover: A Year of Achievement for the RHSV

Clockwise, from top left: Andrew Lemon congratulates Simon Smith at the launch of his book Barristers, Solicitors, Pettifoggers; The Hon. Ted Baillieu, MLA, opens the RHSV conference The Other Face of War; Don Garden and Jill Evans at the opening of the Face 2Face exhibition; Carole Woods delights the Hon Adam Bandt, Mrs Elizabeth Chernov and Don Garden at the launch of The Australian Red Cross in the Great War; Richard Broome presents the RHSV Award of Merit to Laurie Burchell, with his wife Pat Burchell, who, sadly, died subsequently; the Hon. Marilyn Warren, Chief Justice of Victoria, and the Hon. Paul R. Mullaly QC, at the launch of the Willis Case Books on line; Karen Jackson, Richard Broome, Liz Rushen, Genevieve Grieves and Rueben Berg engage with the audience on Melbourne Day