



History NEWS

RHSV OPEN
SATURDAYS
10AM-4PM

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Royal Historical Society
of Victoria



Tribulations of an Historical Society p.5

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The opinions expressed here are personal and not those of the RHSV.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

I recently visited South America marked by magnificent landscapes and fascinating cultures, but at times an atrocious human history. It boasts many World Heritage sites including the wonderful Machu Picchu in Peru and the old cities of Valparaiso in Chile and Potosi and Sucre in Bolivia.

Valparaiso in the nineteenth century was the major west-coast South American port with significant trading links across the Pacific with Sydney and Melbourne. The old town sprawls up a steep hill of narrow streets lined with amazing and colourful buildings. The locals cherish this heritage. When a block of high-rise apartments was built, spoiling the view for many and the streetscape for everyone, the community banded together and forced local authorities to ban further high-rise in the hill area.

Potosi, elevation 4070m, is a place with a grim history and a less successful defence of its heritage. The Spanish opened a silver mine there in the sixteenth century, tapping into the vast reserves, which financed the Spanish empire for three centuries. For a period, Potosi was one of the largest cities in the world and the richest in the Americas. Such wealth rested upon the cruel exploitation of slave labour, first the indigenous people and then black Africans. However, the Africans could not adjust to the altitude and cold and died in huge numbers, so the Spanish conscripted indigenous men for a period of seven years. Very few survived under horrific conditions. It is estimated that eight million people died in the Potosi mines.

Old Potosi is a town of narrow streets lined with many Spanish-era buildings, which accounts for its World Heritage listing, but its status is under threat from the lack of strong local protection of the buildings, and ongoing degradation from dust, fumes and neglect.

The contrast between Valparaiso and Potosi underlines the importance of community action in defence of heritage. The RHSV is focussed on this issue and urges local societies to do the same within their communities. Too much is being lost to neglect and greed.

I returned for the RHSV's AGM where I reported on the very successful period the RHSV has experienced in the last two years. My comments are available online in the Annual Report. However, I wish to express my deepest thanks to everyone at the RHSV for their magnificent efforts – staff, day volunteers, councillors, committee members, etc.

Most Council positions remain unchanged after the AGM. My thanks to RHSV members for re-electing me as President. As Vice President, I welcome Elisabeth Jackson. She has taken over from Richard Broome who will concentrate on the excellent work he does as Chair of the Publications Committee. Judith Smart has stood down from Council but will continue committee work. I thank her for her decade of contribution to Council. A newly-elected councillor is Noel Turner who has a background in the history of crime in Victoria. Recently the Council co-opted Daryl Hawkey, a former merchant banker, who is also now the Deputy Chair of the RHSV Foundation.

Don Garden

Cover:

This 1929 building, former offices of the *Dimboola Banner*, became the Dimboola Printing Museum in 2009. Courtesy Dimboola and District Historical Society

THE RHSV IS OPEN ON SATURDAYS: 10.00 – 4.00pm

All collections open except the images collection.

Our exhibition space is open and the bookshop too. For current stock see: <http://www.historyvictoria.org.au/shop>

We look forward to your visit!

Note: Flagstaff Station operates on Saturdays.



Student History Teacher Claudia Kurrle at work on Saturday at the RHSV

Holsworth Local Heritage Trust Grants

The **Holsworth Local Heritage Trust**, a charitable fund within the **Victorian Community Foundation**, offers grants to **not-for-profit organisations** such as historical societies, clubs, schools and museums in regional and rural Victoria. The Trust is interested in supporting enthusiastic community groups and organisations with a true interest in heritage preservation and appreciation, and the enhancement of community life.

Grants of up to \$2,000 are available for the publication of any specific or general local history or natural history in rural and regional Victoria. The Trust encourages applications from small organisations with an interest in publishing works of historical value, even where the organisation has little or no experience of self-publishing work. Joint projects encompassing several groups, or annual/special edited journals incorporating submitted historical articles from a wide community, are encouraged. Applicants are required to submit a proposal including details of the intended date of publication. It is expected that considerable research has already been undertaken before applying.

Download an application form from the RHSV website or phone us on 9326 9288 for a mailed copy.

Applications must be submitted by 31 July. Further information and application form: <http://www.historyvictoria.org.au/programs/holsworth-local-heritage-trust>

History

NEWS



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Vale Hugh Anderson, Teacher, Scholar, and FRHSV

A proud Fellow of the Royal Historical Society of Victoria, and a former councillor and vice-president, Hugh Anderson died on 3 March 2017, aged ninety. Although physically frail for many years, he remained actively engaged in historical scholarship, completing his last work on Victorian history in his final week. The author of more than forty books and some one hundred articles, he was the leading scholar of folklore and nineteenth-century popular culture in this country. His enthusiasms and enquiries ranged widely, encompassing literary and cultural history, biography, local and institutional history, as well as convict ballads and popular culture. He made his research accessible and meaningful to readers, whether academic or general. Some feminist scholars adopted aspects of his early social histories; he was a pioneer in supporting Indigenous history; and his work appealed to local and family historians—indeed, to all wanting a good read. He considered himself a writer—and write he did, prodigiously, in time snatched from a busy professional life.

Born in Elmore, Victoria, in 1927, Hugh McDonald Anderson grew up in a family that experienced the privations of the Depression, with his father's small business struggling, and his mother having to take up work as a postal clerk. Showing a practical bent, he was sent to the Bendigo School of Mines, where an exceptional teacher introduced him to literature, classical music and radical politics. After working as a surveyor with the Victorian Forestry Commission, Hugh enrolled first at Bendigo Teachers' College, then at Melbourne Teachers' College, where he began writing short stories and literary criticism for magazines, especially *Meanjin* and *Farrago*. In 1949, he started a part-time arts degree at the University of Melbourne, but the English Department eschewed literary nationalism and political interpretations, so he eventually dropped out, disappointed. And yet, the political and intellectual fervour at the university informed the rest of his life. Having joined the Communist Party in Bendigo in 1943, he participated eagerly in the Realist Writers' Group in Melbourne until forced to resign for fraternizing and collaborating with too many supposed conservatives, such as Jack Moir and Bruce Muirden. Despite this, Hugh continued to associate with literary radicals and cultural nationalists, including Stephen Murray-Smith, Ian Turner, Frank Hardy and Judah Waten, and wrote for the first issue of *Overland*. Eventually, he favoured slightly less iconoclastic publications, such as the *Victorian Historical Journal*, though unlike many of his youthful associates, he remained a freelance Marxist.

For many decades, Hugh was a primary school teacher and principal, moving from Melbourne to Apollo Bay, then to Ballarat and back to Melbourne. In the late 1960s, he collaborated with L.J. Blake on the mammoth history of the Victorian

education department, *Vision and Realisation* (1973). From the early 1950s, Hugh was writing unremittingly, mostly in the evenings after work, on weekends, and during vacations; sometimes he wrote all night. Among his pioneering contributions to Australian folklore scholarship are *Colonial Ballads* (1955), *Farewell to Old England* (1964), and (with John Meredith) *The Folk Songs of Australia* (1967). *Time Out of Mind* (1974) is a biographical narrative of the folk singer Simon McDonald of Creswick, Victoria. He pursued an historical approach to folklore, concentrating on literary history. He wrote biographies of the goldfields songwriter Charles Thatcher (1960) and poets Bernard O'Dowd (1968) and (with Les Blake) John Shaw Neilson (1972). He edited works of Adam Lindsay Gordon, Thatcher, O'Dowd, Neilson, and Louis Esson; compiled and annotated ten or more bibliographies; and wrote a dozen entries to the *Australian Dictionary of Biography*. He authored books about John Pascoe Fawcner (*Out of the Shadow*, 1958) and Squizzy Taylor (*Larrikin Crook*, 1971)—the latter recently revived through the 'Underbelly' television series. In the 1960s he penned local histories: the first, *The Flowers of the Field* (1969), a history of Ripon Shire, became a model of the genre. Prompted by his friend Ellie Pullen, he wrote Ringwood's history. The publication of more than twenty school textbooks and multiple commissioned histories supported his career as an independent author (and publisher of the Red Rooster Press) from the 1980s onwards. As Frank Bongiorno recently put it, 'I can't think of another Australian historian—or indeed, another scholar of any kind—whose career resembles Hugh's in the slightest'.

When Hugh returned from the bush to Melbourne in the late 1960s, the RHSV became for many years his intellectual community, a society that appreciated and

sustained his dedication to independent historical enquiry. As a councillor (1968-79) and vice-president (1977-79), he shared in the historical brio and passion of Les Blake, Warren Perry, Ellie Pullen, Murray Verso, Marjorie Tipping, Mary Turner Shaw, and many others—regardless of trivial differences in social and political opinion. As a scholar who largely steered his own course, lacking any secure academic post, Hugh particularly appreciated election to fellowship of the RHSV (1974). He received many other awards, but this was always the most cherished. The University of Melbourne bestowed on him the D.Litt. degree; and he was elected a fellow of the Australian Academy of the Humanities—but recognition first came from the RHSV.

Hugh's beloved wife Dawn, herself an educationist and writer, survives him, as do his children Warwick and Marcia (and her husband John M. Davies), and grandchildren Ian, Claire and Hugh. Andrew Lemon, Kate Prinsley and other members represented the RHSV at a celebration of his life at Melbourne University House in March this year.

Warwick Anderson



MEMBERS ONLY EXCURSION

Free and Special Tour of the Australian Club

Saturday 1 July, at 10.30

The Australian Club, on the corner of William and Little Collins Streets, was established in 1878 by a group of Melbourne gentlemen who disliked the journey in bad weather (due to flooding) to the Melbourne Club on Collins Street. The Australian Club with its grand and highly decorative Renaissance revival architecture and ornate interior became, and remains, an impressive entity, with an Australian Heritage listing. This is a rare opportunity to experience 'Marvellous Melbourne' alive in the 21st Century. Morning tea will be served.

New Members are most welcome: By taking out a membership prior to Wednesday 28 June you are most welcome to join us for this special event.

Numbers are limited and bookings essential: 9326 9288 or office@historyvicxtoria.org.au

Bookings close: Wednesday 28 June. On confirmation of your booking please meet outside the Australian Club, 110 William St, Melbourne VIC 3000, at 10.15am.



Australian Club 1880 (RHSV Collection)



Student bank at Macleod High School PROV VPRS 8935/P1

The Victorian Community History Awards 2017 are now open:

The VCHA are proudly presented by the RHSV and the Public Record Office Victoria. The awards celebrate the people involved in community history projects who are dedicated to telling local stories that help all Victorians to better understand their past.

Entries close Friday 21 July at 2pm. The Awards Ceremony will be held on the 16th of October at the Arts Centre.

Awards are offered in the following categories:

- Victorian Community History Award – \$5000
- Collaborative Community History Award – \$2000
- Local History Project Award – \$2000
- History Publication Award – \$2000
- Local History Small Publication Award – \$1500
- Cultural Diversity Award – \$1500
- Multimedia History Award – \$1500
- Historical Interpretation Award – \$1500
- Centenary of WW1 Award – \$1500
- History Article (Peer Reviewed) – \$500

Visit historyvictoria.org.au for more information and to download entry forms. For forms by mail phone 9326 9288

Make the 2017 Annual History Week the Best Ever!!!



Young Victorian Railway's staff member with platform refreshment trolley c.1920 RHSV NEG - 1798

History Week 15-22 October 2017 promises a fascinating week of exploration. In 2016 there were 410 events statewide, which we hope to surpass in 2017. History Week is promoted by extensively by the RHSV and we encourage historical societies, museums and libraries to host a history event that showcases your activities.

Collectively *History Week* demonstrates the vibrancy of local history around the state. It highlights the enormous amount of work undertaken by volunteers and paid staff to make Victoria's history accessible. Every year the range of activities and number of participants grows and we thank you, and encourage you, to begin planning for this year. Outcomes include: strong attendance at an event; increased awareness of the work of historical societies; substantial media coverage of historical societies and their events.

If your group is are planning a history-related event during 15-22 October 2017, and would like it included in the official *History Week* calendar, please register your event online at www.historyweek.org.au

History Week is generously supported by the Vera Moore Foundation

Tribulations of an Historical Society

The Dimboola & District Historical Society began in late 1968 as a result of a growing interest in local history, as well as some parochial anxiety over a Dimboola Shire Council decision to develop a pioneer museum in the neighbouring town of Jeparit. A planned 'Back to Dimboola' in 1969 also gave impetus to the society's formation.

The early years were characterised by a flood of purposeful activity – establishing a constitution, joining the RHSV and WVHAS, collecting and cataloguing local documents and artifacts, conducting and publishing historical research, participating in community events, increasing membership, protecting locally endangered canoe trees and 'finding a home'. Success was evident when membership grew from the initial 13 to 53 members by 1971.

Finding a permanent home, however, had been the society's first and greatest challenge. Building materials were collected from the outset, with thousands of bricks being rescued from demolished building sites and old chimneys scattered around the countryside, so the plan became to build their own headquarters. Negotiations with the Dimboola Shire Council to obtain vacant land for the building eventually broke down and the search for a home was seen, by some, to have been drawn out far too long. In December 1974 a frustrated and disillusioned building committee gave notice of a motion to disband the society. The motion was fortunately deferred, then withdrawn in early 1975 when it was determined that legal action against the council should be pursued. Time passed - as did the threat of legal action - and in early 1976 the society purchased a double-fronted shop in the main street to act as their home.

A great deal of hard work followed organising the society's collection and establishing displays. However in late 1977 clashes of personality and disagreements over procedure and the society's direction arose. The society became divided and the broader community became involved. Petty procedural motions, disorderly meetings and instances of expulsion and resignation occurred too frequently. The lowest ebb was reached in 1980 when eleven members of the society had Supreme Court writs lodged against them. Throughout the rest of the 1980s and early 1990s membership of the society steadily declined. The period of in-fighting and division were not forgotten by the local community. At the October 1995 general meeting, after another motion to disband the society was lost, the executive and all but two of the committee handed in their resignations as both members and trustees.

A new start was made. New and old members joined, now informed by a new monthly newsletter. A building fund began the search for a new home. In early 1999 the Dimboola Courthouse, built in 1875-6, was sold and an application for demolition presented. The society lodged an objection to the demolition on the grounds of the building's heritage value. A public campaign to save the building began with the aim of making it the new home of the society. In the most difficult of economic times over \$38,000 was raised and a \$-for-\$ grant - along with lots of voluntary labour - gave the society sufficient funds to purchase the old building, relocate it closer to the centre of the town, (this time on land provided by the Shire); carry out painting and restoration work; and add new meeting and archive rooms at the rear. The transfer of the society's collection from the old shop building to the new premises – and the establishment of new exhibitions - was a mammoth task. The campaign consolidated hard-won community support and membership rose. The building was officially opened in November 2004.

In mid 2003 the society, through its newsletter, expressed concern that more of the town's history was to be lost when the premises of the local newspaper, the Dimboola Banner, came up for sale. An enthusiastic and supportive Melbourne member, Ms Marjie Wilson, contacted the society soon after and said she would negotiate the purchase of the building if the society would maintain it as a printing

museum. The owners, Chris Pierlot and Tony Cornish of Countrywide Media, agreed to donate the remaining machinery, (much of it over 100 years old), type, equipment, bound copies of the paper and furniture to the cause. The society was delighted with their new project – a letterpress printing museum. Financial support from Western Victorian philanthropist, Geoff Handbury AO, enabled renovations to the building and the development of further buildings at the rear. The museum is still very much a work in progress, even though an official opening of the 1929 building was held in 2009 as part of the town's 150th celebrations. The society was proud to receive the 2009 Heritage Council Award for 'its outstanding achievements in preserving and sharing Dimboola's rich history'.

The society became incorporated in 1996, was registered as a 'place of deposit' for the Public Records Office in 2007 and achieved 'deductible gift reciprocity' status in 2008. Membership sits steadily around 70 with a similar number of additional newsletter subscribers. Whenever possible the society contributes to community reunions and other activities, whether they be of sporting clubs, school and church groups, businesses or other organisations. Future challenges centre around attracting younger members, cataloguing and preserving the collection, and actually publishing some of the considerable research already undertaken by members.

Dimboola & District Historical Society



Genealogical Society Collection at RHSV

The Genealogical Society of Victoria has recently relocated to smaller premises and has donated the bulk of its library collection to the RHSV. GSV retains a small research collection at its new offices.

The collection of 480 large crates of books and periodicals was delivered, together with shelving, to the RHSV in late March. This created problems in terms of storage space but fortunately a large basement area known as 'The Armoury' on the VCO side of the Drill Hall became available. This secure room was used to store weapons in earlier times. It has now been converted into a library 'stack' area. Much of the GSV collection is stored there on its own shelving, from which retrieval will be quick.

Some reorganisation of the library upstairs was necessary. The large wooden bookcases have been moved closer together to allow additional bays of shelving. The most used sections of the GSV collection (Victorian local history and family histories) are housed there awaiting checking and cataloguing.

The collection significantly enhances the RHSV Library, including some local

histories not currently held; family histories not already owned by the RHSV or any other public institution; and material on individuals and their contexts.

A very welcome component is a set of Sands and McDougall Melbourne Directories. These are used extensively at RHSV for site searches and other research and the RHSV set is becoming increasingly fragile. They are available on CD and the State Library has started a program of digitisation but many people still prefer the paper version. Also included are general genealogical resources for Australia and other countries.

A team of volunteer library technicians has been recruited and will be checking and cataloguing the collection for incorporation into the RHSV Library. The RHSV welcomes GSV members and others to use the collection at the Drill Hall.

Elisabeth Jackson - Chair of RHSV Collections Committee



Crates of GSV books delivered to the RHSV



Shelving in the Armoury stack area.

HVSG News

So many wonderful things are happening in the world of local history that it's hard to keep up! During March and April I visited societies at Mount Evelyn, Craigieburn, Kilmore, Heidelberg and Murchison. I enjoyed Heidelberg's 'Remembering 67' exhibition, to celebrate the society's 50th birthday. I was astonished by the world I lived in as a 15 year old and wallowed in nostalgia.

At Murchison I was fascinated to learn about the 'Murchison Meteorite' which landed in September 1969, an event that captured world-wide attention. Next year is the 50th anniversary of its landing and the Murchison community is planning an event. If you can add to the story of the 'Murchison Meteorite', please contact

(murchison-historical-society@hotmail.com).

On Saturday 25 March we held our first HVSG seminar. Forty people attended despite fierce competition from the Grand Prix and the AFL season opener. Professor Ian Clark spoke about We Are All of One Blood, his three volume nineteenth century history of the Djabwurrung Aboriginal people of central Victoria, shaped over thirty years of research in the pre-TROVE era. This book required meticulous detective work and an intelligent approach to the primary resources then available.

Kilmore was the venue for our second seminar on Saturday 13 May. Canberra-based writer Robert Macklin spoke about Hamilton Hume, whom he describes as 'our greatest explorer'. Australian-born Hume, along with William Hovell, journeyed from Sydney to Melbourne

and back in 1824-25 on what is now known as the Old Hume Highway 31. Robert Macklin urged a reassessment of the importance of this 'currency lad', underestimated by generations of historians. All speakers were stimulating and the hospitality of the Kilmore Historical Society was greatly appreciated.

Coming soon: Saturday 22 July at Bairnsdale; and Saturday 19 August at Ballarat.

Cheryl Griffin (HVSG convenor)



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A Well-earned Break

After a decade Judith Smart is stepping down from Council, but will continue as review editor of the *Victorian Historical Journal* and as a member of the Publications Committee and the newly-constituted Heritage Committee.



A History of Managing Research Queries

After retiring from my job as a Medical Laboratory Scientist I followed my interest in Australian History by gaining a BA Hons from La Trobe University and was introduced to the RHSV by one of my tutors.

When I first started as a volunteer at the RHSV over fifteen years ago the Library catalogue was a card system and queries came either via telephone calls or visits in person to our library. As a volunteer I would help members of the public to find information. The telephone calls came through the switch board and our admin officer Ged Horgen was continually interrupted from her more important tasks. As time went by the Library Catalogue was transferred to a computer and visitors and volunteers could find information using several computer screens stationed in the Library.

Eventually our website has been improved and queries can be submitted by email. So now Ged has more time to attend to her various tasks and I have my own file in the Volunteers section of the Library computer network. Nearly all the queries come via email and the Library is now used mostly by volunteers working on their allotted tasks, supervised by our dynamic Collections Manager and Volunteer Coordinator, Christine Worthington. She has managed to streamline the volunteer activities so that we have all become much more efficient and able to enjoy our time at the RHSV even more. I find it very satisfying to be able to help researchers find material relevant to their individual projects.

Sandra Sutcliffe, Volunteer

Dr Judith Smart, a former associate professor in history, RMIT University, is currently an Adjunct Professor at RMIT and Honorary Principal Fellow, History and Philosophical Studies, University of Melbourne. For over thirty years she has given great service to the history profession and the RHSV in particular.

Judith has been a member of the Victorian Working Party, Australian Dictionary of Biography, since 1980; the Network for Research in Women's History (Australian Branch of International Federation for Research in Women's History) since 1985; and also executive member of the Melbourne branch, Australian Society for the Study of Labour History. She was also editor of the premier journal of our country's history, *Australian Historical Studies* from 1994 to 1999. She has been awarded various Australian Research Council Linkage Grants including a grant with Professor Emerita Marian Quartly, which resulted in their history of the National Council of Women of Australia, *Respectable Radicals* (2016). Her numerous publications include co-edited collections, chapters in books, articles, entries in the *Australian Dictionary of Biography* and *Encyclopedia of Melbourne* and refereed conference papers. She also co-edited the book, *Founders, First and Feminists: Women Leaders in Twentieth-century Australia*.

Judith has also made a great contribution to the RHSV as the Council's representative, including the editorial board of *Provenance* (journal of the PROV), the History Council of Victoria, and the Federation of Australian Historical Societies. However, it has been as a councilor and a member of the Publications Committee, that Judith has made her most valuable and indispensable contributions over many years.

Judith was a hard-working councilor, always on top of meeting papers and able to make astute comments on Council business and policy. This effort has been sustained since 2007 when she joined Council. Judith has a great eye for detail and was an expert at constitutional matters. She had a high attendance rate and always approached meetings with good humour. Her sense of

fun often carried the day when graver heads threatened discussion on Council.

Her efforts on the Publications Committee have been stupendous and it is with relief that we know these will continue. Judith was Review Editor of the *Victorian Historical Journal* from 1999 to 2004 and is again from 2016. She was editor of the *VHJ* from 2005 to 2010, and has mentored incoming editors since then. Judith initiated and organised the successful RHSV/University of Melbourne conference (2007) to celebrate the centenary of women's suffrage in Victoria, the papers published in a special issue of the *Victorian Historical Journal*. She also co-organised and edited the RHSV conference on the Homefront in WW1, the papers of which formed a special issue of *VHJ* in 2015. Judith recently co-edited *Remembering Melbourne 1850-1960* (2016) with Richard Barnden, Richard Broome, Don Garden, Don Gibb, and Elisabeth Jackson. She also carried the huge burden of copy-editing and has again contributed greatly to the corrections for the reprint.

The RHSV depends on volunteers such as this, who are hardworking, good colleagues and committed to the Society. With volunteers such as Judith the RHSV in this way will continue for decades to come.

Richard Broome

Councilor RHSV



Judith Smart

Saving a Musical Heritage

By Mel Forbes, Membership Manager, Australian Jazz Museum

Hidden in parkland near Dandenong Creek in the Eastern suburbs of Melbourne is a gem of a museum, dedicated to Australian Jazz. Established in 1996, the Australian Jazz Museum houses a vast collection of anything and everything associated with Australian Jazz.

The museum was established in response to a perceived threat to a part of our musical heritage. In the post-war years Australia was home to a very lively jazz scene. A combination of big-band jazz, continuing on from the Swing tradition of the 1930s and 1940s, along with a revival of the earlier small-ensemble style, was the music of choice of a significant proportion of the populace. Musicians returning from wartime service contributed to the formation of a number of bands. This was augmented in time by a continuing supply of musicians as big bands broke up, in response to changing trends in entertainment, and to competition from the new craze of Rock 'n roll. The level of interest in this form of jazz, known now as traditional or "trad" jazz, waxed and waned over subsequent decades, undergoing a revival in the 1960s as the baby boomers reached university age, and again in the 1970s. Throughout this time, and continuing to the present day, the live-jazz scene has been supported by a network of jazz clubs and festivals.

While some early Australian jazz was recorded or re-released on media such as CD or vinyl which have stood the test of time, a large body of work was recorded only on more fragile media. Examples of such media are acetate recordings, which consist of an aluminium substrate with a brittle coating into which the recording is cut; wire recordings; and reel-to-reel and cassette tape.

A realisation developed, starting as early as the 1960s and intensifying by the 1990s, that unless something was done to preserve these at-risk recordings, a large portion of the creative output of legions of Australian jazz musicians would be lost forever. Following on from a number of unsuccessful attempts, in 1996 a group comprising musicians and jazz lovers from around Australia met in Sydney along with the National Film and Sound Archive (NFSA), and decided to form a national Australian Jazz Archive, to be housed at the NFSA in Canberra. However, at a follow-up meeting held in Melbourne two months later, it was revealed that the NFSA were only prepared to devote relatively scant



ADE MONSBOURGH & GRAEME BELL

resources to the project, and to restrict public access to it. At that point the meeting resolved that each State would go it alone and form separate jazz archives.

The Victorian team was the best-resourced in terms of empowered, influential representatives and volunteers, and leapt into action. Within a couple of years, operating as the Victorian Jazz Archive, they had acquired premises at a peppercorn rental, a large heavy-vehicle maintenance shed owned by the major Melbourne water authority of the day. They made good progress on cleaning it out and setting up offices and storage areas. Appeals to friends and benefactors provided much-needed cash for building materials and components, and labour was provided by an energetic group of volunteers. The challenge

of providing secure, fireproof, temperature-stable and vermin-free storage was solved by the purchase of three shipping containers, which were lifted by crane into the shed prior to construction of internal walls. The corporate and academic backgrounds of a number of the pioneers are evident in their insistence on immediate incorporation, rigorous processes and documentation, fully computerised records, best-practice packaging of the collection in archival materials, ease of access to the collection for study purposes, and on achieving museum accreditation through Museums Australia (Victoria).

Finding the collectibles was relatively easy: many jazz devotees and collectors were anxious for their collections to find a

good home. The real challenge was to quickly process and safely store incoming materials. Due to the volatile nature of some of the recordings, transcription capability was quickly developed, with original recordings digitally copied onto best-available-quality CDs.

In parallel with the development of the Victorian Jazz Archive, there were archives devoted to Australian jazz established in NSW, SA, WA, Queensland and Tasmania. None of these organisations was able to develop the traction of the VJA. At around the time that the VJA became the Australian Jazz Museum (AJM) to better reflect its broad horizons, the NSW and WA organisations folded and their contents were entrusted to the AJM.

The Australian Jazz Museum is today a thriving organisation, completely self-supporting and independent of any government or corporate bodies, and run entirely by volunteers. Our membership hovers around 700. The greater part of our operating expenses is met by membership subscriptions and donations, and we actively seek out government or philanthropic grants to cover capital expenditures.

The collection of the AJM is not restricted to recorded music. We have photos of jazz bands and musicians; posters advertising jazz concerts and festivals; books and magazines on jazz; scrap books; band charts; instruments once owned by Australian jazz notables; newsletters and histories of Australian jazz clubs; personal papers of great Australian jazz musicians, and more. Whereas the initial focus of the AJM was the rescue of at-risk Australian jazz recordings, the emphasis has broadened over the years towards sharing of our now-huge collection of everything to do with Australian jazz, with the world. We mount regular themed exhibitions on our premises, and we also issue compilations of rare Australian jazz on CD, under our own label.

We aspire to deliver a comprehensive museum experience, in a form that enables us to share our entire collection directly with the public across all digital platforms. To this end we have ramped up our efforts to digitise our collection, even to the extent of creating searchable files of the millions of pages in our vault of jazz magazines, journals, cuttings and musicians' personal archives. Plans are well advanced to install database software and an upgraded website to enable delivery of this considerable digital content.

We welcome the general public to visit, and invite researchers, historians and musicians to use our collection. Drop in and have a look around our operations and exhibits during our open days of Tuesday and Friday, from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm. We are located at 15 Mountain Highway, Wantirna, Vic. You'll find much more about us on our website, www.ajm.org.au. We offer group visits at modest prices, which include a guided tour behind the scenes, a concert by a live jazz band, and a light meal. Phone (03)9800 5535 for more details and for bookings.

Finally, the Australian Jazz Museum welcomes donations and/or new members. Please consider supporting our good work – just visit our website and click on Support Us.

Mel Forbes

Reception at Government House



The Governor, The Honourable Linda Dessau AC, with from left to right, Jill Hicholls, Rosemary McConnell RHSV Volunteers; and three of the co-editors of Remembering Melbourne 1850-1960 (2016) Don Garden President RHSV, Don Gibb and Elizabeth Jackson. Courtesy George Fernando.

The Governor of Victoria, the Honourable Linda Dessau AC and her husband Mr Anthony Howard QC, held a reception for over a hundred volunteers from over twenty historical societies, who underpinned the production of *Remembering Melbourne 1850-1960 (2016)*. The Governor praised the book for its beauty and chronicling of Melbourne's built heritage. Her Excellency referred to the many comments made by visitors to Government House about the book that graced a coffee table at the House. She spoke of her love for Government House, of which she was but a custodian, and some aspects of the history of the House. The Governor also praised the hard work of volunteers in helping to support the heritage of Melbourne. In her speech the Governor stated that she was the fifteenth governor of this state to be a patron of the Royal Historical Society of Victoria and how pleased she was to follow in that vein. After the speech and morning tea the volunteers were invited to tour the state dining room and the magnificent ball room.

Richard Broome



Richard Broome (left) and David Dunstan contributors to Remembering Melbourne 1850-1960, in the magnificent ballroom. Courtesy George Fernando.

March - April 2017

Top Ten Best Sellers in the History Victoria Bookshop

- Eight Wurundjeri seasons in Melbourne*, by Jim Poulter
- Batman's 'Treaty' - the true story*, by Jim Poulter
- Building Castlemaine: the red brick legacy of H D McBean*, by Robyn Lewis
- Visions of a Village: Canterbury shops and shopping*, by Don Gibbs & Stuart Warmington
- Bellbrakes, bullocks and bushmen: a sawmillers & tramway history*, by Mike McCarthy
- Historic Houses: glimpses of old Castlemaine*, Castlemaine Historical Society Inc.
- Samuel Lazarus: foreman of the jury at Ned Kelly's trial*, by Tim Gatehouse
- Who is she?*, by Diann Talbot
- Winter-Irving*, by Warwick Finlay
- Weeds, plants and people*, by John Dwyer

Standing on the Corner

The RHSV's next exhibition in our Gallery, opens on Wednesday, 12 July. It will close on 20 December 2017.

The exhibition's focus – as expressed in its title – arose from our concern when preparing captions for *Remembering Melbourne 1850-1960*, that readers would have sufficient detail to locate a pictured site in contemporary Melbourne. A large number of the images included in that book are of corner sites.

The Hoddle Grid, symbol of Melbourne, created a city of corners and intersections. No rounded edges, but sharp angles. Discounting Melbourne's numerous and exciting laneways, and concentrating on the meeting of the Great and Little Streets, the Melbourne of today has over 80 corners – each easily identified by their relationship to the compass points.

Corners offer opportunities to exhibit prominence and presence and to advertise products and services to a passing crowd of

potential patrons and customers. 'Location, location, location' is the oft-repeated truism. Location matters. It is on corners that we find banks, churches and other places of assembly, entertainment houses, educational establishments, welfare and community service institutions, accommodation of all types, trade and service agencies, public and government offices, commercial organisations, markets, shops and department stores and, of course, hotels.

Corners, besides their strong position for service and sales, sometimes offer the monumental to Melburnians. In other cases they offer the prosaic – a meeting place, a spot to watch the world go by and to catch a tram, bus or train, a place to post letters, to buy a newspaper or magazine or to use a public toilet.

Corners are vantage points for artists and

photographers – often providing a dramatic or unusual angle. The perspective is generally at ground level, but sometimes elevated as from a tower, parapet, portico or roof. Street intersections are a favoured position, where a building's design is accentuated and there is the street theatre of traffic versus pedestrians. Corners can also book-end architectural styles and precincts – another favoured subject of the artist and photographer.

Standing on the Corner illustrates how Melbourne's corners have been used across 110 years. These are corners of Melbourne as they were – so many of them now lost to us. To provide context for the images, we will also display a variety of maps of Melbourne for the period 1850-1960.

Richard Barnden, RHSV Picture Collection



Six two storeyed brick shops and dwellings, south-west corner of Lonsdale and Russell Streets, Melbourne, 1910 RHSV BL075-0028



Prell's Building, south-east corner of Queen Street and Flinders Lane, c. 1890 RHSV A-470.002

RHSV Digital Engagement Survey 2016

While planning for the RHSV's future digital engagement it's important that we have an eye to the digital engagement of our affiliate groups. It became apparent that there was an information gap which a quick survey would help redress.

Our RHSV ten-question survey of member societies broadly covered internet connection and usage, cataloguing, websites and digitisation projects, and the results were reported on 1 September. The findings of these kinds of surveys are always very interesting. This one highlighted for us that we have a very broad range of groups doing a wide variety of activities. Around one third of our groups responded in the allotted time. That 98% of our societies were contactable by email and could complete the survey online was important. The other 2% of societies were sent a print version and their responses also collated.

We found some pleasing things. 61% of responding groups have a website maintained by the group, 21% have a web page hosted by the local municipality or other organisation and only 18% have no website at all.

Around 70% of groups have at least one digitisation project underway or in the planning stages. Most of these are for images, historic documents and newspapers. 9% of respondents indicated that their entire collections are digitised.

Only 54% of respondents have the internet connected at their groups' premises. This looks alarming at first, but some groups don't have premises, while other groups said they don't need the internet at their premises because their members carry out research and cataloguing at their homes. Some groups couldn't justify the cost of connection when their society is only open for a short period of time each week. Some groups use dongles at their premises in lieu of a connection. Of the 18 groups that said they would be connected if not for the cost, only one had applied for a grant for digital engagement in the last five years, and we don't know if this was for connection costs.

It is concerning that 33% of respondents have not computerised their catalogues. Of those, 63% have up to 1000 records and 36% have over 1000 records. Over 50% of groups have catalogues that are computerised but not online. This survey did not address how many of these groups would be happy for their catalogues to be online, or would do so if they had the means.

For cataloguing, most groups use DB/Textworks, Victorian Collections, and Office applications such as Word or Excel. The other 35% are using about a dozen different packages. Only around 16% are using software compliant with international standards for materials description and data harvesting (to sites such as Trove).

Conclusions and recommendations for the RHSV that came out of this survey include the following:

If a society has a desire to have the internet connected at their premises the RHSV could explore ways of helping them to find the means and funding to make this possible.

The RHSV can encourage societies to future-proof their catalogues by advocating for compliance with international standards for describing collections and for data harvesting – we could provide our member groups with a list of questions for their prospective software providers.

The RHSV can encourage societies to increase their digital engagement by continuing in our outreach to demonstrate the benefits of free social media, increasing access and potential to network with other groups online.

The RHSV can show leadership in compliance with international standards for collection description and access.


The survey clarified for us that a lack of an internet connection at the premises of the group certainly doesn't mean the group is not digitally engaged. But some groups lack the technical expertise to take that step. Just as accountants make volunteer contributions to non-profits, perhaps we can find ways to encourage IT professionals to do the same for our member groups needing that assistance.

Some reticence remains about loading collections online. The experiences of groups that have recently made their catalogues accessible online can inform how we encourage other groups to initiate or increase their online access. We can host conversations with our member groups about protecting and controlling their collections while enhancing access to them online. Some fear being inundated with enquiries if their collections go online (though in some important ways online catalogues can decrease workload). The RHSV can explore ways of assisting them to manage these issues through the experiences of other groups that have taken that step.

Thanks to all those groups that completed the survey and provide detailed and thoughtful responses. This information will assist the development of the RHSV's digital engagement and our interactions with our affiliate groups on digital matters.

A more detailed analysis of the survey can be found on our website at <http://www.historyvictoria.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2011/06/2016-Digital-Engagement-Survey.pdf> See also FAHS Newsletter 42 (December 2016)

Christine Worthington, RHSV Collections Manager & Volunteer Coordinator



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AROUND THE SOCIETIES

We welcome Societies to submit an article/event of around 50 words, or email your Newsletter to us and we will write up around 50 words for you around twice per year. For the 1 July 2017 issue, please send details to office@historyvictoria.org.au by 15 June 2017. Prepared by Volunteer Glenda Beckley on behalf of the History Victoria Support Group.

ANGLICAN: Meetings are held at Holy Trinity East Melbourne church hall in Hotham Street. At our meeting on 21 June, Dr Alan Gregory AM will present: Lord Somers – an Anglican Governor.

BACCHUS MARSH: The Society meets on the last Thursday of the month at 7.30pm in the James Young room, Lerderderg Library, 215 Main Street, Bacchus Marsh. The Archives are open to the public on Mondays – 1.30pm to 4.00pm & Fridays – 2pm to 4.00pm. The Archives are **closed** on Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Thursdays except by appointment. The Society is undertaking research into the soldiers and nurses of World War One who are listed in the Bacchus Marsh Express Newspaper Roll of Honour, the intention being the production and publication of a book for the Bacchus Marsh and wider community. If you have details about any of these men and women, we would love to hear from you. Photos, letters, and anecdotes will be greatly appreciated. Contact the project officer: Katrina at katrinagb@bigpond.com

BALLARAT: In May, the Society will again be active with the City of Ballarat's Heritage Month activities based on this year's theme "Unravel the Mystery" We will be mounting a display in the A Hall space of the Town Hall using images from Capture the Vision.

BOX HILL: Note change of day, time and venue – Through June, July and August meetings will be Sunday afternoons from 2:00 – 4:00 at Meeting Room 1, 1st Floor, Box Hill Library. Sunday 18 June our guest speakers are Glenys Grant OAM and Kay Edwards – 'From Burwood Boy's Home to Bestchance; 120 years'.

BRIGHT: The Bright RSL sub-branch has donated to the Society 10 booklets of the history of Mafeking Square and the Memorial Clocktower in Bright. The booklets are for sale at one dollar each. Please

note, the Bright Museum is closed from mid-June until early September.

BRIGHTON: The Society's autumn journal features wonderful histories and stories of our traders and shopping precincts including: Memories of 1920s Church Street, Were Street Village, The Brighton Button Shop, Temme's Drapery Store, and the Old Brighton Courthouse.

CIVIL AVIATION: Meetings commence at 12 noon sharp. A light lunch is available following each meeting. Cost is \$3.00. Meetings are at the Airways Museum at Essendon Airport, Melbourne, Victoria, at the rear of Building 44. Guest Speaker at the 14 June meeting is Mr John Minski – The Hidden Life of an Airliner – Preserving Airworthiness.

CLUNES MUSEUM: Discover some of our fabulous photographic archives on our new Clunes Museum Facebook page. We have also updated our webpage which can be found at <http://www.clunesmuseum.org/>

ECHUCA: Our latest exhibition at the Echuca Historical Society Museum, 1 Dickson Street, Echuca is "Our Mediterranean Settlers - Stories of families who made their home in the Echuca District" - 5th May till 30th July.

FITZROY: As we age, so too do others in the community. The Oral History Project Group was formed to capture and record the experiences of long term residents of Fitzroy under the banner of 'The life and times of Fitzroy' dating from the 1960's. The society joined the Oral History Association of Australia and conducted the Project according to their recommended standards of operation. The results will be launched in August this year in the Reading Room of the Fitzroy Town Hall. The collection of interviews, recordings and transcripts will then be available from the Local History Collection of the City of Yarra Library.

HEALESVILLE: Sunday 25 June is the PROPOSED date for an event organised by the Society celebrating the 90th anniversary of the completion of the Maroondah Dam. Melbourne Water will set up its historic collection and show footage of the construction of the dam. Plans are still taking shape.

INVERLOCH: The Society is delighted to be hosting the 21st Anniversary Exhibition daily in June 2017, at Inverloch Community Hub, 16 A'Beckett Street, Inverloch. In addition to its incredible beauty, Inverloch is a place of captivating historical significance. Our members have spent the last 20 years collecting items which demonstrate this legacy. Many more items of significance are in private collections in the town. This exhibition brings some of these collections together for the first time.

KNOX: The Knox Historical Society Inc. copies or collects school group photographs and currently has 18,000 school photographs (some dating back 100 years) from 54 schools. This is an important project for the historical society as it documents the children who grew up in the area and aids researchers undertaking family history research. Visitors enjoy looking for photographs of themselves or family members and often help the historical society by identifying some of the faces on the photographs.

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LAKES ENTRANCE: Hidden away down a laneway off Carpenter Street, the ice-works was started by the Bairnsdale-based Lakeland Butter & Ice Factory in the late 1950s. The ice wasn't made on site, but brought in from Bairnsdale. It was managed by Hugh Bach and his wife Freda. The main customers for the ice were the fishing boats, who bought up in bulk before heading out to sea. Sales were through a shop on the Carpenter Street frontage, where domestic supplies of ice could be bought by placing a coin in a machine. The freehold was owned by Eric 'Watery' Goding, who operated a dairy from there and had an arrangement with Lakeland Butter & Ice. The Lakes Entrance fishing cooperative was opened in the late 1960s with ice making facilities to service the trawlers. 'Watery' Goding and his son Ray continued using the building as a distribution centre, until Ray retired and the dairy ceased operation.

The old ice-works remained vacant for several years until local artists Andrea Lane and Gary Yelen decided it would make a fantastic studio. They have big plans for the building and even have thoughts about opening a café on the vacant block fronting Carpenter Street—and may even sell ice cream!

MALDON: Our collection of Maldon-ness was started in 1966 by the Maldon Progress, Publicity and Tourist Association, and since 1992 has been under the custodianship of Maldon Museum & Archives Association Inc. The collection continues to grow, and our members and volunteers continue to research, document, preserve and present it in a way which helps visitors to understand the past, reflect on the present and look to the future. The district settlements covered by the collection include Baringhup, Bradford, Eaglehawk, Gowar, Maldon, Muckleford, Neereman, Nuggetty, Pollard, Ravenswood South, Sandy Creek, Shelbourne, Tarrangower, Walmer, Woodbrook (Chinaman's Creek), parts of Eddington and Welshman's Reef, and the Cairn Curran Reservoir construction settlement at Baringhup (1947 to 1956). Museum Opening Times: Every Saturday 1:30 pm to 4:00 pm and every second Sunday (Maldon Market) 10:00 am to 2:00 pm

Entry: \$5 per adult (under 17 free) Groups by Arrangement.

MOUNT EVELYN: Dates for your diary—Monday 19 June 2017, General Business Meeting, 7.30 – 9.30 pm Hardy House. Saturday 24 June 2017, AOEHS Conference at Karralyka Centre Ringwood (Ringwood & District Historical Society).

Saturday 15 July 2017, 1.30-3.30 pm, at Hardy House. Marion Stott will speak on the Mooroolbark Walk. The Mount Evelyn History Group Inc is now our official Facebook page, as of 1 March 2017. Please note the new page has 'Mount', not 'Mt'.

Updated regularly, it lists upcoming History Group activities, as well as providing a forum for discussion and comment on historical and anecdotal information about Mt Evelyn and surrounding areas. Visit us at: [Facebook.com/MtEvelynHistoryGroup2016](https://www.facebook.com/MtEvelynHistoryGroup2016)

MURTOA HISTORICAL SOCIETY proudly announces that tenders have been called for the refurbishment of Murtoa Railway Station. This is the culmination of two years of negotiations with VicTrack. The new look station will be a community asset & a great addition to our precinct which consists of Concordia College & Belltower & the Railway Watertower Museum

ROCHESTER: With the cooler weather we are seeing more visitors to the museum, mostly to do family history research. We have been given a book *A short history of the William Pickering Families in Australia 1831-1995*. The Pickering family had land at Timmering and Nanneella. We have also been given some family photos of the Dickson family at Restdown Station. Adam Dickson had the Restdown homestead and 514 acres of land from 1906-1936. These donations all add to our collection of information on early families of Timmering. New shelving has been erected in the dairy shed and the displays re-arranged. The middle of the week before the Easter break scaffolding was hired for 2 days and with the hard work done by volunteers the ceiling of the old Salvation Army Hall was repaired (it had started to collapse in some places) a big thank - you to all involved in these projects.

ROMSEY/LANCEFIELD: The Friends of the Cottage are looking forward to welcoming visitors again to the Cottage on the last Sunday of each month throughout 2017. As always, there is something to be admired. The Lapigeria is again enchanting visitors with lots of lovely pink bells hanging

from the vine; we are training it to go right around the verandah. Some late roses are blooming and the golden tansy is intent on taking over the garden. We have planned some low maintenance plants for particular areas and are becoming ruthless in removing those garden 'thugs' which spread too rapidly. It is the time for the fruits of autumn - the last dark blue Damson plums are lovely to see and the Euonymus berries are just beginning to show their vivid pink colour. Join us on the last Sunday of the month and soak up the ageless atmosphere yourself.

RYE: A monster book sale will be held at the society rooms on Saturday 10 and Sunday 11 June. Working bees from 5 June. Further donations of books are welcome. Our general meeting on 26 June will be held at St Andrews Church Hall in Rye at 2:00pm. Join accomplished local author June Loves in a lively workshop to get you started on the key elements of writing a memoir.

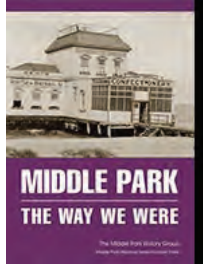
WHITEHORSE: The Society holds general meeting every two months (normally on the second Saturday of the month) where an invited speaker provides a presentation on an aspect of local or general history for the interest of members and includes an afternoon tea. Meetings are held in the Visitor Centre of the Schwerkolt Cottage & Museum Complex and commence at 1:00 pm. Visitors welcome. Our next general meeting at 2:00pm on Saturday 17 June will include a book launch by Gerry Robinson, of *The amazing Life of Mary Schwerkolt* by Rosalie Schwerkolt Whalen.

YACKANDANDAH: The Committee has made the decision to close the museum on Wednesdays during Victorian school term, and on Mondays during Victorian school holidays. Hopefully this will be a temporary measure until we have greater numbers of volunteers to open the doors. The hours remain the same: Victorian School Term: 11am-4pm, Thursday-Sunday; Victorian School Holidays: 11am-4pm, Tuesday-Sunday. We hope to open on most public holidays as well, except for Christmas Day and Good Friday. Thank you for your continued support.

Books received by Don Gibb, with images by Richard Barnden: Authors, publishers and Historical Societies are invited to contribute books to the RHSV for the library and for consideration for inclusion in Books Received.

Middle Park, The Way We Were

The Middle Park History Group, Middle Park Historical Series Number Three, Middle Park History Group, PO Box 5276, Middle Park, 3206, 2016, pp. viii + 251. ISBN 9780987224125.



Eight well-researched and illustrated essays on aspects of Middle Park social history plus a list of former shops and a carefully-constructed map of shops and light industries. This book is the third published by the Group and matches the excellence of the earlier ones. The essays deal with shops and shopping; dairies, manufacturing and other light industries: social change and early development; the suburb and the beach; the bowling club; the suburb and the Great War; and crime. Written by multiple community authors, this is a fine product and an exemplar for community history groups engaged in publishing.

The La Trobe Journal No. 99, March 2017

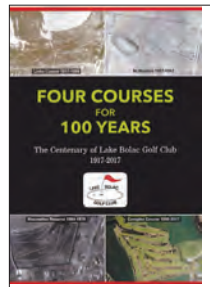
State Library of Victoria, Melbourne, pp. 144, 2017. ISSN 14413760.

This latest issue carries eight diverse articles on: Alfred Howitt and the Howitt family; links to the Paris Commune by Marcus Clarke and Felix Meyer; Henry Lawson at Bourke; James Miller Marshall, a little-known English painter who spent nearly two years in Australia in the 1890s; Ina Higgine and advocacy of women in horticulture; Thomas Allan McKay and the Specialty Press; the Free Religious Fellowship and the Great War; and a gripping account of a grand-daughter's struggle to come to terms with her grandparents' return, participation and memories of Hitler's Germany. The journal also prints Jim Grahame's previously unpublished memoir of Henry Lawson. Rich pickings of great interest.



Four Courses for 100 Years, The Centenary of Lake Bolac Golf Club, 1917-2017

Karen McIntyre (ed.), Lake Bolac Golf Club, PO Box 101, Lake Bolac, 3353, 2017, pp. 108.



Centenaries are occasions for reminders of the past. This booklet outlines the courses, competitions and personnel of the club over the years of its existence. It serves its club members and, incidentally, provides a vignette of an important local institution.

Tobruk 1941

Chester Wilmot, Text Publishing, Melbourne, 2017, first published 1944, Text Classics, pp. xiii + 392, \$12-95. ISBN 9781925498455.



A welcome republication of a significant war book written by a masterly Australian journalist whose death in a plane crash in 1954 put paid to many more planned books. Peter Cochrane provides an instructive appreciation of Wilmot's work as a broadcaster and reporter including the context for his writing of this book.

Duchene/Hargraves, Alexandre Julien Duchene, Edward Hammond Hargraves & the Discovery of Gold in Australia Three or Four Days from Sydney

Douglas Wilkie, Historia Incognita, 2016, pp. 458. ISBN 9781367108219.



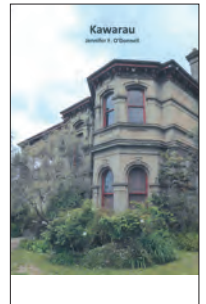
An intriguing book. Duchene an ex-Van Diemen's Land convict migrated to Melbourne in 1848. He jointly purchased 38 ounces of gold found by Thomas Chapman, a shepherd on Glenmona station in the Pyrenees. He then travelled with Chapman and his partner to the site, reported favourably on the prospects, returned to Melbourne, publicised the discovery providing directions, and sought from La Trobe a reward and appointment as a goldfields commissioner. La Trobe refused and Duchene left for California. Hargraves has usually been credited with sparking the rush near Bathurst in early 1851 after returning from California where he had visited similar places to Duchene. Wilkie finds parallels between Duchene's and Hargraves' stories. Both searched for gold three or four days from Melbourne/Sydney; both publicised their discoveries;

both claimed rewards and appointment from government; and both were in California at the same time. There is no evidence that they actually met, but their parallel stories invite the possibility. The author outlined Duchene's role in Victorian gold discoveries in an earlier work. This book thoroughly investigates Hargraves' chequered life, his pronouncements, and the claims made by later writers about him. Thoroughly documented, but strangely with no index.

Kawarau

Jennifer F O'Donnell, PO Box 132, Moonee Ponds, 3039, 2016, pp. 116. ISBN 9780992532826.

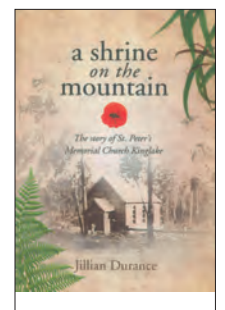
'Kawarau' is best known as the Hawthorn home of Fred J Cato, the successful principal of the early and very large chain of groceries especially in Victoria. It was more recently the site of the notable Stephanie's Restaurant. The author has already written other histories of grand houses. Her



work is meticulously researched both on the houses and their occupants. This book is copiously illustrated with contemporary and modern photos and plans. It traces the European occupation of the area from squatter Gardiner through other landowners to Robert Robinson's building of 'Warrington' on the site in 1892. Cato bought the house in 1895 and greatly enlarged it. It remained in Cato hands until 1945. Somewhat miraculously, its wealth of architectural features has survived many uses to the present, when it is part of Alia College.

A Shrine on the Mountain, The Story of St Peter's Memorial Church Kinglake

Jillian Durrance and Stephen Holmes, 2016, pp. 160. ISBN 9780646954066.

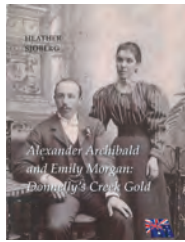


The book has three parts: the stories of young men who died in the Great War; the building of the church in 1922 as a memorial to them; and the destruction of the church in February 2009 and its subsequent re-building. Elegantly written, well-researched and well illustrated, it serves its community well. It highlights for those outside Kinglake what has always been a special place, conceived after the conflict of war and renewed after the devastation of fire. Indeed, a significant sacred place.

Alexander Archibald and Emily Morgan: Donnelly's Creek Gold

Heather Sjöberg, the author h.sjoberg@hotmail.com, 2016, pp. 180, \$25. ISBN 9781925167559.

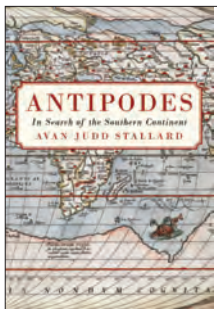
This book tells the migration stories of the author's maternal great-grandparents. It is an exhaustively researched family history that charts their lives drawn mostly from public sources.



Alexander Archibald, a coalminer from Fife in Scotland came to Victoria in 1857, went to the Bendigo goldfields and spent much of his later life mining at Walhalla and other Gippsland sites such as Donnelly's Creek. He died there in 1895. In 1884 he married Emily Morgan, the daughter of Irish convicts transported to Van Diemen's Land, who migrated to Victoria and settled in Gippsland. Inevitably there are gaps in the stories that the author seeks to fill by thoughtful references to the possibilities.

Antipodes, In Search of a Southern Continent

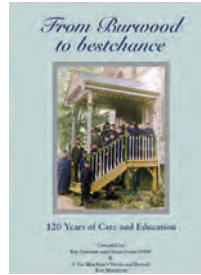
Avan Judd Stallard, Monash University Publishing, Melbourne, 2016, pp. xviii + 264, \$39-95. ISBN 9781925377323.



Terra Australis Incognita was an imagined place, and an important incentive for exploration. This is a lucid discussion of European ideas about an imagined southern continent, the advocacy for its discovery, the many voyages and failures to explode the myths despite their discoveries. Stallard states in his preface: 'People believed in the southern continent because they wanted it to be real . . . People continued to believe in the southern continent in the face of overwhelming proof of its non-existence because authorities on the matter had always taught that it was real, and people wanted it to be so.' His argument spans the second century BC to the 1770s. There are many references to Australian maritime explorers, including a debunking of the claimed Portuguese and Chinese discoveries. The text is supported by copious illustrations of maps.

From Burwood to bestchance, 120 Years of Care and Education

Kay Edwards and Glenys Grant (compilers) & Ken Masterton, *A Tea Merchant's Vision and Beyond*, 2016, pp. xvi + 202. ISBN 9780995368781.



The Burwood Boys' Home, founded by the tea merchant Robert Campbell in 1896, remained there until 1986, when it shifted to Glen Waverley. The Home was always non-denominational but with strong links to the Church of Christ. Its history highlights changing social attitudes, ideas and practices about social welfare for the young, originally 'destitute boys', but from 1976 also for girls and, from 1986, no longer residential. It also traces the development of government regulation and financial assistance; the rise of professionally trained workers; and the contributions made by community members in an honorary capacity. The book incorporates a previously published history of the Burwood Boys' Home written by Ken Masterton in 2007.

Gunner Jackson Monk, 2nd Australian Siege Battery, WW1, His Story

Beatrice M Garner (compiler), 2016, pp. 489.

Monk enlisted in 1916, served on the Western Front as an artilleryman, survived wounding and returned to his home in Queensland in 1919, but tragically died from a burst appendix in 1922 leaving a widow and baby daughter. This book publishes his story through letters, diaries, postcards, and copies of drawings and photos. The material is arranged in chapters that include supplementary material. The compiler is his niece.

Karingal Seymour, A Resting Place

John G Jennings, 73 Goulburn Street, Seymour, 3660, 2017, pp. 109, \$12 + \$5 postage. ISBN 2370000338648.

An attractive booklet that thoroughly tells the story of the foundation of Karingal aged care facility, its development, governance, personnel and functions. It includes memoirs from those involved and is written by the president of the Seymour and District Historical Society.

Simon Ambrose at the AGM

The CEO of the National Trust of Australia (Victoria), Simon Ambrose, spoke at the RHSV AGM on 16 May attended by seventy people. Simon who has held CEO and Director roles in tourism associations in NSW, WA and Queensland, has since her appointment at the NTAV in mid-2016, brought dynamic leadership skills to the Victorian arm of the National Trust. Simon Ambrose stated the NTAV will focus on a renewed commitment to heritage in its widest dimensions that is, built, cultural, Aboriginal and national heritage, as well as attention on the recent past as well as the icons of the colonial period. His talk was accompanied by images from both well-known and lesser known and unusual Trust properties.



*Between Two Famous Corners in Swanston Street Lies a
Magnificent and Intact Streetscape*



West Side of Swanston Street between Collins and Little Collins streets 1994

*From Left Manchester unity Building (1932), Capitol Theatre (1924), Talma Building (1924), Aeolian House (1926) and Century Building (1938). Photographer: John Gollings.
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