

HISTORY NEWS

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President's Report

Looking to the future

The RHSV Council is preparing for a Planning Day in late October to consider future directions and opportunities for our organisation. A small number of committee members and volunteers will be invited to join the Council's deliberations. The time is now opportune to discuss what openings remain for strengthening the RHSV after a significant period of change, including staff renewal, our new website, better customer relations and operational software, etc. These changes exist alongside the current challenges that most member organisations face these days, including changing demographics and the influence of social media and other new ways of communication and research.

What will or should the RHSV look like in ten years' time? Should we continue to offer the traditional mix of lectures, exhibitions and a research collection, tempered by online offerings, or should we prepare for a more revolutionary future?

Will we be in the Drill Hall? So far, there has been no solution found for our long-term tenancy, and as the state election approaches, we need to propose solutions and solicit promises from both Government and Opposition.

The Planning Day will also consider recommendations to modify the Constitution from a small sub-committee that has been set up to look for desirable changes. There are no pressing issues, but a few aspects do not reflect modern practice or need clarification.

One of these, also for the Planning Day, is our membership structure and fees. Once more, no major changes are currently proposed, but we wish to examine how we should be best structured into the future. The Membership Development

Committee has undertaken to provide recommendations by October.

While the Planning Day will be by invitation to keep participants at a manageable number, I welcome written contributions from any RHSV members who wish to offer ideas for the discussion. Please send them to me before mid-October. As part of a member organisation, you are vital to our wellbeing.

The RHSV Council was shocked and saddened to hear of the death of fellow-councillor, Dr Noel Turner. There is a tribute to him elsewhere in this issue. His contribution to the Publications Committee, in particular, will be deeply missed.

Don Garden

President



Don Gibb RHSV Prize in Australian History at La Trobe University. Professor Richard Larkins, La Trobe University's Chancellor (left), presents the prize to the inaugural winner Eamonn Orr with the help of Professor Nick Bisley (right). Ann Gibb, Don's widow, and his daughters, Sally and Susie, attended the ceremony

Donors to the RHSV Foundation

2008 to 31 December 2017

The RHSV is deeply grateful to the following donors to its Foundation Fund over the last decade.

The Fund commenced with a generous gift by former Councillor Gordon Moffat, which was followed by a donation of \$100,000 by the late Dame Elisabeth Murdoch. Gordon Moffat has continued to support the fund ever since becoming, over time, its biggest donor. Its assets at the end of 2017 were \$537,000, \$135,000 of which was interest earned over the life of the Foundation.

The donors in alphabetical order are set out below. If our records are inaccurate, and a name has been inadvertently omitted, the Society would appreciate advice to the contrary.

Adams, John,	Mullaly, Paul
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Broome, Richard	Elisabeth
Clarke, Ian & Heather	Murdoch, Elisabeth Trust
Cole, Harry & Valda	Murphy, Joan
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COVER:

Costume Museum, early 19th century display:
dress 1820, piano 1826.

Photograph courtesy of Garry Roberts.

History News deadline for final edition for
2018: 1 November 2018, unless in consultation
with an editor.

The Costume Collection

For students of social history, Bryan and Loel Thomson's private museum, The Costume Collection, is one of Melbourne's best kept historical secrets. Housed in a specially designed building in Bulleen, the museum showcases the social history of Australian clothing from the time of European arrival. The emphasis is on clothing worn in Australia over the last 200 years. Loel Thomson, who curates the collection, is interested in what people wore in their daily lives and what caused clothing design to change, so it does not include theatrical costumes, national dress or uniforms.

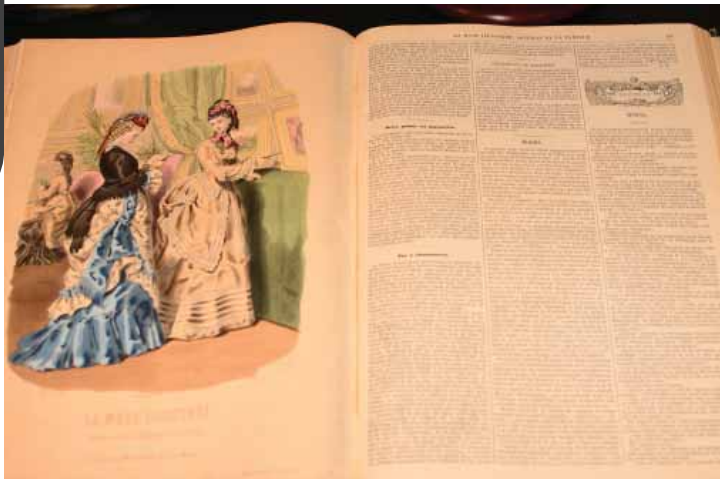
The Costume Collection houses 10,000 items of clothing, dating from 1790, as well as a large reference collection. The latest items are those made by current Australian designers. With so many items in the collection, Loel has both permanent and temporary displays. Describing the exhibition, she commented that it was a 'series of different themes ... because you're always trying to bring new things up from the store, and you get the same people coming over and over again. So, you've got to have something different out for them.' Though The Costume Collection may not be as well-known as it should be in Melbourne, those who know of it appreciate it.

A typical tour begins in Loel's library-work area where she explains how the collection came to be created and what it includes. The library contains portrait photographs (available from the 1850s) and bound copies of fashion magazines with hand-tinted plates dating from 1811, as well as reference works on fashions and fabrics. But the highpoint of a visit is the exhibit area with its thematic displays detailing the history of Australian clothing.

The permanent displays resemble small rooms, domestic settings with the appropriate period furniture, paintings and decoration, where costumed mannequins are posed undertaking everyday activities: doing the laundry, dressing for a ball or playing the piano. In the drawing room scene, the piano is from 1820, the woman's dress from 1830 and, when the museum has visitors, Loel plays 'Jane Austen music' to set the scene. As Loel



1850s dress. All photographs in this article courtesy of Garry Roberts.



French fashion magazine La Mode Illustrée



Doing the laundry—late 19th or early 20th century



Button boots and hook: 1905–1914

explained: 'If you just present somebody with a garment on its own, unless they know it, they can't relate to where it fits into the time frame, so if you can put something with it that belongs to the period, it helps people identify with that period.' The focus of the displays is mainly women's clothing, though men's and children's garments are also featured. One display details how women's silhouettes changed in the nineteenth century from the simpler 'Jane Austen' costume where dresses fell in straight columns from under the bust to the elaborate crinolines and dresses with bustles. Loel related how this men's position in society, describing the fashions of the 1870s and 1880s as 'ridiculous fashions, very extravagant,

very expensive, very ornate' and the changes in costume that occurred as women moved out of the home and into the workforce, particularly during World War I and afterwards. Commenting on the laundry display, she said: 'That's what everybody asks me—"How did you wash those dresses?" You couldn't wash those ornate dresses, but people wore enormous amounts of underwear in Victorian times and they certainly washed their underwear.'

On the day that I visited, Loel had curated a temporary display of clothing from the Second World War that highlighted how people 'made do' when clothing and dress materials were rationed. The display includes examples of wartime clothing:

not just the everyday homemade, such as a blouse fashioned from parachute silk, but elegant items such as a wedding gown fashioned out of curtain material that is a tribute to its maker's skill. You did not need ration coupons for curtains, because the material was not needed for service uniforms. Ration books and wartime publications instructing housewives how to make do when making clothes place the clothing in its historical setting. A rabbit skin coat is a whole history of wartime rationing, farming life and the fur trade: the farmer shot the rabbits himself and sent the skins to the furrier to be made into a coat. The exhibit contains the furrier's letter with a request for 10 ration coupons for the lining.

The collection is not open daily, since Loel is the only person working there, and most of her work is research. But private tours can be organised by appointment. Loel Thomson hosts four or five groups a week and is happy to share her knowledge and expertise with genuinely interested visitors, students and researchers. Recent researchers have included high school students studying 1950s social history, someone from the ABC investigating fabrics for a series set in the 1860s and a film researcher looking for information on clothing from 1915 to 1930. The costumes are not for loan, and, as Loel remarked, modern women would not be able to fit into the dresses without the corsets worn in the past, but the reference library and the clothing give designers ideas about how to create an authentic period feel in their productions.

Loel's interest in costume collecting began over 35 years ago when she and Bryan were restoring Noorilim, a historic homestead, near Murchison. She later created exhibitions to raise money for the local historical society, giving visitors the opportunity to tour the homestead and view the rooms where mannequins were posed in costumes reflecting the period of the rooms.

On obtaining costumes, she declared: 'You never go past a second-hand shop or a junk shop or a market, or an antique shop when you're travelling.' Though Loel used to accept donations, this is no longer possible. Sadly, The Costume Collection will soon be unavailable at its present location. Buildings in the area are being acquired for freeway extensions and Bryan and Loel Thomson will lose their home and their museum. Loel is

currently looking for an organisation that will accept the complete collection, not just the costumes, but also the display settings, the reference collection and the catalogue. 'I owe that to all the people who've donated things and it's a resource ... for schools and universities.'

To organise a visit, before the collection closes or moves from Bulleen, ring The Costume Collection on 9852 1794. Cost of entry: a \$5 donation for the Murchison Nursing Home, though, if a group is fundraising, Loel is happy for the money to go to their cause.

Marilyn Bowler



Domestic setting 1940s



1950s underwear, including rope petticoat



1960s Carnaby Street fashions

What's On

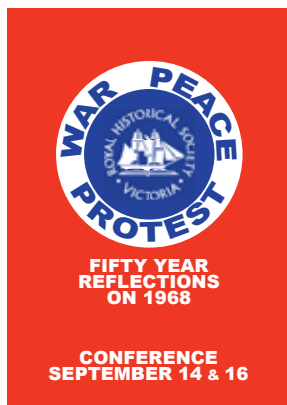


Curator: Zoe Henderson | Designer: Daisy Searls | Production: David Thompson

WAR, PEACE, PROTEST: THREE EVENTS OVER TWO DAYS

The biennial RHSV conference occurs over two days in mid-September. There are three linked events in the conference program and we invite you to book for all three, or for each event separately.

Bookings: <https://www.trybooking.com/book/sessions?eid=404785>



NOW WE KNOW: A HALF-CENTURY PERSPECTIVE ON AUSTRALIA'S VIETNAM WAR

DATE: FRI 14 SEP
 TIME: 6:30PM
 COST: FREE for RHSV members & those attending conference, all others: \$10
 VENUE: Officers' Mess Upstairs, RHSV, 239 A'Beckett St

Peter Edwards will deliver the RHSV Augustus Wolskel 2018 lecture.

As 2018 marks the half-centenary of the most tumultuous year of the Vietnam War, when much of the world seemed on the verge of revolution, it is an appropriate time to revisit some of the major themes of the debates that divided Australian politics and society. As Melbourne was the epicentre of Australia's political earthquake, this is the appropriate place as well as time for such a retrospective. What do we now know that we did not know fifty years ago? How do some of the major arguments presented by participants in the debates of 1968, on all sides, look with the benefit of fifty years' hindsight? Which long-held beliefs now appear to be myths or half-truths?

Peter Edwards, currently an honorary professor at both Deakin University and the Australian National University, was the Official Historian of Australia's involvement in Southeast Asian Conflicts 1948-75.

Join us for drinks at the Putting it Out There launch before this lecture.

WAR, PEACE, PROTEST: FIFTY YEAR REFLECTIONS ON 1968

DATE: SUN 16 SEP
 TIME: 9:30AM - 4:00PM
 COST: \$60 for RHSV members; non-members \$80 and F/T students \$40

Includes lunch and morning tea, the Wolskel Lecture & Putting It Out There launch

VENUE: Officers' Mess Upstairs, RHSV, 239 A'Beckett St

The Royal Historical Society of Victoria will reflect on fifty years since the dramatic year when key international events had their impact on life in our community – the escalation in the Vietnam War and Australia's role in that conflict, the student riots in Paris in May 1968, the anti-war protest movement particularly within American universities, and the symbolic Black Power protest at the 1968 Mexico Olympics which also involved Melbourne athlete Peter Norman. A distinguished panel of historians and first-hand observers will revisit that time and ask the question: what significance do we draw from those events, fifty years on? How curious that 2018 also marks the centenary of the Armistice at the end of the First World War – the war that was hoped to be the one to end all wars.

Seamus O'Hanlon will deliver the Keynote Address: 1968 – From the Vietnam War to Vietnamese Immigration: Melbourne's Long "Sixties"

The significance and meanings of notable dates, eras and events are both highly historically-contested and geographically-specific. They are also often intensely personal. While the focus of most of the papers in this symposium is political - the 'events' of 1968 and the legacies of the protest movements of the 1960s in Australia and elsewhere - Seamus' paper takes a more social and cultural approach to exploring the various meanings and legacies of 'the Sixties'. It does so by documenting a range of issues and events from the 'long-1960s' in Melbourne and speculates on their on-going effects on the city and Australian society more generally in the decades since.

For the full program and speakers' biographies please refer to the attached program.
 Seamus O'Hanlon



7 to 14 October 2018 HISTORY WEEK Get involved!

Is your organisation holding a history event during History Week 2018? If so, let us know so that we can include you in the 2018 History Week calendar. Send us an email at info@historyweek.org.au.

The celebrations will include:

BEYOND BLUESTONE

Location: Victorian Archives Centre, 99 Shiel St, North Melbourne VIC 3051

BLACK POWDER MILL: FREE OPEN DAY

Location: Corner Parklea Ave & Grassy Point Rd, Cairnlea VIC 3023 (Melway Map 25 F6)

BOOK LAUNCH: SAM'S METEORITE, A CHILDREN'S PICTURE STORY BOOK

Location: Heritage Centre 4 Stevenson Street Murchison VIC 3610

MANNING CLARK – AN EYE FOR ETERNITY

Location: St Peter's Hall, 15 Gisborne Street, East Melbourne MURCHISON HERITAGE

MURCHISON HERITAGE CENTRE OPENS EVERY DAY FOR HISTORY WEEK

Location: Heritage Centre 4 Stevenson Street Murchison VIC 3610

QUEEN ELIZABETH OVAL AND SURROUNDS (BENDIGO)

Location: QUEEN ELIZABETH OVAL VIEW STREET BENDIGO

"RAYMOND STREET: THE MAIN STREET OF SALE", CURATOR'S TOUR OF EXHIBITION

Location: 130 Foster Street, Sale 3850

SALE POWDER MAGAZINE TOUR

Location: 18 Stephenson Street, Sale

THE WESTON BATE MEMORIAL LECTURE

Location: The Victoria Theatre, Sovereign Hill, Ballarat, Victoria 3350

FOR MORE INFORMATION

<http://historyweek.org.au/>

TEMPORARY ENTRANCE

Don't forget that, for the next 7 weeks, entrance to the RHSV will not be through our usual foyer but through the William Street door, unless otherwise indicated.

Halls of Fame:

Toongabbie Mechanics' Institute



Toongabbie Hall 1906



Toongabbie Hall today

In the early 1980s, it would be hard to imagine a Gippsland building in a more perilous state than the Toongabbie Mechanics' Institute. It swayed dangerously in the wind, with windows broken and walls falling apart. For some Toongabbie residents, there seemed to be no alternative but to abandon the building that had been at the centre of the town's community for a hundred years. Its timber and chimney bricks were put up for sale. But as Alan Harding and Roger Ries argue in their history of Toongabbie, the Mechanics' Institute wouldn't go without a fight.

Toongabbie's history was linked to the famed gold town of Walhalla, located deep in the Great Dividing Range to the east of Melbourne. After gold was discovered in 1863, hopeful miners travelled by boat to Sale, set out across the red gum plains to where Toongabbie is now located, and then faced the arduous climb through the mountains to Walhalla. Toongabbie developed as an important staging post for Walhalla. Packhorses, bullock teams and later coach services left from Toongabbie for Walhalla, transporting people, supplies and mining machinery to the gold town.

Soon, Toongabbie had hotels, a school, houses and stores. In 1883, the Mechanics' Institute was built on a corner of the cricket and football recreation reserve, later known as the village green. The building had a timber frame, corrugated iron roof and weatherboard walls. The wood came from local ironbark and red gum. A two storey extension was built nine years later. This reflected Toongabbie's prosperous connection with Walhalla.

In 1902, the Mechanics' Institute was described as one of the most substantial buildings in Gippsland, with one of the best libraries and a comfortable reading room. The hall was considered 'commodious'.

The building also had a large lodge room, a supper room and offices for the Bank of Australasia and the clerk of courts. The doctor consulted there on weekly visits.

The Mechanics' Institute was the centre of community events. It was often festooned with ferns and wattle for balls, while concerts featuring locals and visiting professionals were frequent. The hall was noted for its good acoustics. At horticultural society shows, the long trestle tables were described as groaning under the weight of district produce and dazzling arrays of flowers. Cricket and football matches were played on the village green outside. Particularly memorable was the 'spectacular banquet' held there for returned soldiers in 1920.

Toongabbie's transport links with Walhalla were severed when a train line was built from Moe to Walhalla in 1912. Now, the town was only linked to its quiet farming community, and struggled to survive. The hall's physical decline started in the 1950s, also the decade its library closed.

Toongabbie had an increase in population in the 1970s when work started on construction of the Loy Yang Power Station south of Traralgon. According to Harding and Ries, it was the newcomers who wanted to restore the increasingly derelict Mechanics' Institute. They sought support from the National Trust and Historic Buildings Council for recognition of its heritage value. Historic Places Section of the then Department of Conservation, Forests and Lands was determined to save it, and endorsed the building's architectural and historical value. The building was added to the Historic Buildings Register in 1983. But, saving the building became a controversial issue in the small community. At first, the local shire considered it a 'wicked' waste of money, especially as new facilities equipped with an

indoor stadium had been built on the town's former racecourse reserve. In its sorry state, the Mechanics' Institute appeared in 'Strikebound', the 1984 film about the Wonthaggi coal miners' strike of the 1930s.

Eventually grants for the Mechanics' Institute's restoration were secured from three levels of government and work began in earnest. The building was brought back from the brink due to wonderful work by builders, participants in employment schemes and the tireless work of dedicated residents. There was a grand re-opening in 1996. On Australia Day in 1998, the Toongabbie Mechanics' Institute was the venue for the inaugural Community History Awards, with which the RHSV has long been associated.

Now looking splendid and treasured by its community, the Mechanics' Institute is a link with Toongabbie's early days and reflects the vital role it played in transportation and the development of goldmining at Walhalla. It is architecturally significant for its large size as a timber building. Two storey timber halls are very rare. It is also remarkably intact. As Jane Lennon of Historic Places Section explained, it has not been damaged by unsympathetic latter day alterations.

So, if you are visiting friends in the region, driving to the mountains or cycling the rail trail that passes through Toongabbie, stop off and inspect the Mechanics' Institute. It's well worth a visit.

Meredith Fletcher

References

Harding, Alan, Ries, Roger, (2003) *Toongabbie: a Gateway to the Walhalla Goldfields*. Toongabbie, Victoria: Roger Ries
 Lennon, Jane, 'The Work of the Historic Places Section, the Department of Conservation, Forests and Lands', (1988) *Gippsland Heritage Journal*, no 4, pp 32-37



A Taste for Leadership and Service

RHSV Councillor and Vice President, Elisabeth Jackson, was born in Adelaide and moved to Melbourne as a child. She was educated at Greythorn High School. Elisabeth completed a BA, majoring in History and Politics followed by a MA Prelim at the University of Melbourne. She then completed a Diploma of Librarianship at RMIT and began her life's work as a librarian.

Her first position was just across the road from RMIT at the State Library of Victoria where she worked among the crown jewels for Australian historians, the La Trobe Collection and the Australian Manuscripts Collections. She left after four years and spent a year traveling. Returning to Melbourne, she became librarian at the Ministry for Conservation for the next four years. Following the births of her two children she entered part-time employment back at the State Library and then in the Moonee Valley Regional Library. After several years she began working full time again as Collections Manager at the Moonee Valley Regional Library. In this position Elisabeth was responsible not only for developing

the library's collection, but budgeting, human resources management and producing the library's publications. Elisabeth became Regional Library Manager, then Executive Officer of the Hume-Moonee Valley Regional Library Corporation, before becoming Chief Executive for the Yarra Melbourne Regional Library Corporation for a year. She retired from fulltime employment in 2008 and worked part time for four years as Executive Officer for Public Libraries Victoria Network. In retirement Elisabeth continues to work as a casual librarian in the Moreland City Libraries.

Elisabeth has always had a strong ethic of service. Early in her career, Elisabeth assumed the significant burdens of being a local councillor. She was elected to the Brunswick Council in 1979 and served until stepping down in 1985 due to family responsibilities. However, Elisabeth was soon back in harness from 1988 to 1994, serving as Mayor of Brunswick in 1990-91. Elisabeth took leave without pay from the Moonee Valley Regional Library to undertake this time-consuming mayoral position. Her greatest achievements

while on Council were seeing through the building of a new public library for Brunswick and the commissioning of a community history of the suburb.

Elisabeth was secretary of Viclink from 2002-05 (later the Public Libraries Victoria Network Inc), a body which shares information between libraries in the state. Also, she was a member of several statewide project working groups (2004-07), one for 'libraries building communities' and another on 'workforce sustainability'.

Elisabeth is currently a volunteer at Animals Australia as well as RHSV. She started at the RHSV in 2013 when she was elected to Council and is now vice president. Elisabeth heads the Collections Committee and now also serves on the Heritage Committee. She was a key member of the editorial group which produced *Remembering Melbourne*. Elisabeth, ever-willing, is an organisation's dream volunteer, turning her hand to most things at the RHSV, including relieving staff at front of house.

Richard Broome

Volunteer brings a range of skills



Chris Manchee has been a member of the Society for twenty years and has been volunteering with the RHSV for five and a half years.

He joined the Society because of his love of history, initially influenced by his mother, a great uncle and a Reverend Bourke. Reverend Bourke had written a book on Catholic Church in Victoria and this sparked Chris's interest to explore the topic further.

In his time as a volunteer he has performed various duties in the society such as administration, working at reception, helping with exhibitions, helping with general research and site searching. In the last three years he has been conducting the Monday tours of the Flagstaff Gardens.

The genesis of that walk began with a lecture at the RHSV where the presenter lamented on the lack of information about the gardens. Andrew Lemon took up the challenge and researched the location

and then led an initial walk for professional tour guides. It was decided that the walks would be marketed as part of the RHSV offerings. Chris had experience gained in conducting tours of the Melbourne Town Hall which he did as an employee of the MCC, as well as a volunteer. For the Flagstaff garden walk, he began by using the information gathered by Andrew Lemon, and since then has done more research and has been able to expand on what he covers in the walk. He also looks for ways to continually improve the activity. On a recent trip to the UK he became aware of how useful it was to show participants historical images to remind them of the original views. His groups can be in numbers as small as one other person up to groups of twenty, but they all come away with an appreciation of the gardens and a site that contains such rich history.

Vale Noel Turner

Dr Noel Turner was elected to Council at the May 2017 AGM. Noel was a Gippslander, being born at Warragul in 1948 and raised in Drouin, where he attended primary and high school. He left school in Year Eleven to take a position with the English, Scottish and Australasia Bank, now the ANZ Bank. He completed Year Twelve while working for the ANZ. In 1976 he began a four-year Bachelor of Education degree and then became a teacher for nine years. He taught Australian History, English and English as a Second Language. Despite his busy life as a high school teacher he completed a Master of Educational Studies part time at Monash University.

Noel left teaching in 1993 for the freedom of self-employment, entering retail, then running a child care centre and finally he became a book importer and distributor. Noel was Treasurer of the Lottery Agents' Association of Victoria for four years. His interest in books enticed him to further study and he completed a Master of Arts in Publishing at Monash University.

Noel then began a PhD at Monash University. His thesis was completed this year after years of painstaking academic research. Noel's research examined murders within Victoria and how they could be used as lenses into different historical periods in order that social change and the evolution of the Australian Dream could be investigated. His thesis led to an involvement with the Australian & New Zealand Society of Criminology, for which he acted as Treasurer for four years. His research on murders throughout



Victoria from the 1830s to the present continues. He is now focussing on the exact locations around Victoria where murders occurred.

Noel was employed part-time with the Melbourne Cricket Club, where he had been a match-day supervisor at the MCG for fifty years. Noel's other interest was aviation. He was one of the relatively few people, who are not commercial pilots, who have landed a plane at Melbourne Airport at Tullamarine.

Noel had a long interest in Australian History. The RHSV was fortunate to have Noel's involvement on Council.

Richard Broome

Book Launch



19 July 2018 Deborah Towns, John Andrews and Geoffrey Blainey launched *A Secondary Education for All. A History of State Secondary Schooling in Victoria* to a packed gallery at the RHSV.

A secondary education for all?: a history of state secondary schooling in Victoria by Deborah Towns and John Andrews is available from the RHSV bookshop.

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Murders in Melbourne

NORTHCOTE



The Angiletta crime scene in Stafford Street Northcote. Photograph contained in Inquest Record VPRS24/P/0002 Unit 000181, courtesy Public Records Office, Melbourne.

Located seven kilometres from Melbourne, Northcote is a suburb with an eclectic mix of Greek, Italian and Australian residents blending with live music venues and an array of retail businesses. It is also home to a number of high-profile Melbourne murder cases.

Vincenzo Angiletta, 46, was shot at 1.35am on 4 April 1963 in the carport of his home in Stafford Street Northcote. Angiletta had been a cleaner at GMH at Fishermans Bend and a former produce merchant at the Queen Victoria Market. It is possible that Angiletta had become involved in the 1960's battle for control of the market. A suspect in this case was Rosario "Ross" Gangemi. He had worked with Angiletta for 20 years and Gangemi died in 2008. The case remains unsolved.

Rosa Rento was shot in the kitchen of her Jenkins Street home at 9.45pm on 18 July 1972. She was not shot from within the home however. The shot was fired from a moving car in the street. John Joseph Power was acquitted of her murder. It was alleged that Power was angry with Rento because he believed that her son had molested his daughter. Power would later be a suspect in the unsolved 1975 murder of Julie Garciacelay in Canning Street, North Melbourne. Power was with Garciacelay on the night she disappeared but he was found to be medically unfit to answer questions about that night's events.

The murder of Bonnie Melissa Clarke, 6, on 21 December 1982 would baffle police for over 20 years, before Malcolm Joseph Clarke was found guilty and sentenced to life in prison in December 2004.

Malcolm Clarke (no relation to Bonnie) had previously boarded with Bonnie's family in Westbourne Grove and he knew that a back door to the home was often left unlocked. Bonnie Clarke was found in her bed and she had been sexually assaulted, strangled and stabbed. This was not Malcolm Clarke's first offence which resulted in a death. In June 1980 he had beaten and stabbed to death Theresa Crowe in her tiny Prahran loft. He had been convicted of manslaughter over that death.

One of Melbourne's worst serial killers, Peter Dupas, struck in Northcote on 19 April 1999, when he murdered psychotherapist, Nicole Amanda Patterson, 28, in her Harper Street home. Nicole Patterson had been born on 28 May 1970 in Sandringham. She was educated at Cato College, MacRobertson Girls' High School, Swinburne University, and Rusden State College. She completed a Bachelor of Education degree and set her sights on a career as a psychotherapist. Clinical clients were hard to come by and Nicole advertised in the *Northcote Leader*. Peter Dupas responded and in the 40 days before the murder, he telephoned Nicole 15 times as he sought information on her status in her home. It is believed that Dupas brutally attacked Nicole in the front room of her home when he arrived for his 9am appointment on 19 April. Nicole was stabbed 27 times and was found almost naked, lying on the floor of her consulting room. Dupas would eventually be convicted of three other murders: Margaret Maher in 1997, Mersina Halvargis in 1997 and Kathleen Downes, also in 1997. He is also a suspect in other unsolved murder cases. Dupas

has gained an appalling criminal history, with almost all his offences involving sexual motives and attacks.

On 22 December 2009, 1 Holmes Street was the address of a public housing estate which catered for residents aged over 55. One resident, Edwin John Wyatt, 65, would die on this day after being stabbed by fellow resident, Joseph Ghazlan, 60. Ghazlan had entered the lift on the fourth floor and travelled to the ground floor. As he exited the lift, Ghazlan saw Wyatt immediately in front of him. Wyatt attempted to trip Ghazlan and Ghazlan's response was immediate. He took a knife from his pocket and stabbed Wyatt a number of times. The response by Ghazlan was out of proportion to the danger he faced. He was convicted of defensive homicide and sentenced to ten years and six months in prison, with a minimum term of seven years and six months. Ghazlan had a long history of mental illness, with a propensity to act violently if he believed he was being persecuted.

The crimes committed by Malcolm Clarke, Peter Dupas and Joseph Ghazlan were brutal and unwarranted. None of these killers were threatened by their victims or their actions. There is uncertainty regarding the motives for the unsolved murders of Vincenzo Angiletta and Rosa Rento. All victims in these cases died in their own homes or in the immediate surrounds.

As with most murders in this series on murders in Melbourne, home had not been the imagined place of safety, repose, tranquillity and sanctuary.

Dr Noel Turner, RHSV Councillor

Save the Snowy Rail Bridge



Orbst floodplains rail bridge

Image: Steve Bennett (2014) 'Orbst rail bridge Stevage'

https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Orbst_rail_bridge_Stevage.jpeg

If you've ever driven through East Gippsland, you couldn't help but notice the old Snowy River floodplain. Many people stop to take photos and wonder why it is just being let fall down.

Built in 1914-16, and now sadly neglected, local community groups have banded together to try and save this remarkable structure and give it a new life through restoration and integrated into the East Gippsland Rail Trail and used for cycling and walking.

The 1997 timber bridges study by the National Trust of Australia (Victoria) concluded that the Orbst viaduct is historically and aesthetically significant at State level.

Since the line closed in 1987, the Snowy floodplain rail viaduct has stood as a distinctive artefact in the landscape, signalling arrival at or departure from Orbst. Despite deterioration of kerb and decking and subsidence or damage to some piles, two experienced bridge engineers from Puffing Billy Railways concluded in 2015 that the basic structure is still sound.

At 770 metres in length, the western section is the longest timber bridge remaining in Victoria and it is this bridge which local groups are campaigning to have restored. If successful, the bridge will

continue to function as an icon for Orbst and the Snowy River district. Otherwise, the future is 'demolition by neglect'.

If you would like to support the SAVE THE SNOWY RAIL BRIDGE group in its efforts to secure funding, please see the e-petition to the Victorian Legislative Council (hit the 'join the petition' button to sign): <https://www.parliament.vic.gov.au/council/petitions/electronic-petitions/view-e-petitions/details/12/81>

Although the Bairnsdale to Orbst line originally featured many wooden trestle bridges over gullies and creeks, very few of them remain to this day, and only one (Stony Creek near Nowa Nowa) has State Heritage listing.

The Bairnsdale – Orbst line was constructed from 1912-1916. This rail project – the heaviest and most expensive in Victoria for a generation – was termed a 'developmental railway', built in advance of demand in expectation of generating enough traffic to justify the investment in its construction. In the days of very poor roads and unreliable sea transport, the railway provided a vital link for the communities and commerce of the districts between Bairnsdale and Orbst and beyond. Also, there was an optimistic view at the time that the railway would be extended to link with Bombala and thus to Sydney. This never

happened and the line stopped at Orbst.

One unusual feature of the Orbst viaduct is that it was constructed of Southern Mahogany (*Eucalyptus botryoides*), a local timber not previously used for bridge building. This proved to be very durable. Even though sections of piles have been replaced over the years, the massive Mahogany beams are still in remarkably good condition. Such a structure is never likely to be built again.

The wonderful Snowy River floodplain rail bridge (viaduct) deserves a new life and new appreciation, to preserve its heritage qualities and its value to Orbst and the wider community. We hope to be able to report progress in a future edition.

References

Kernot, Maurice (1916) 'The Bairnsdale to Orbst Railway' *Proceedings of the Victorian Institute of Engineers* vol. XVI 1916 (18) pp.278-202 & 278-280 (downloaded 1-7-15 from

<https://digitised.collections.unimelb.edu.au/handle/11343/24599>

National Trust of Australia (Victoria) (1997) Citation for Snowy River floodplain railway bridges (from the Timber Bridges Study, National Trust).

Threats to Heritage: From Beaumaris and Northcote to Fed Square

'A small crowd of heritage advocates protesting against the demolition of 27 Mariemont Avenue [Beaumaris] gathered at the site yesterday to watch heavy machinery raze the 1962 house, designed by architecture firm Chancellor & Patrick' (Alison Worrall, 'Heritage advocates fail to save house', *The Age*, 14 August 2018, p. 12). This story—all too common—reflects a fundamental problem in our planning system: the weakness of local heritage protection, a story I've discussed at some length in the last two issues of *History News*. In Beaumaris, Council abandoned a heritage study meant to deliver protection for its outstanding modernist homes after some property owners protested, fearing that heritage listing might reduce property values. Such fear campaigns make local

heritage protection even more difficult to obtain. Local historical societies can help fight such campaigns, but the ultimate solution must be a change in our planning and heritage structures that brings the state into the picture.

In another local heritage issue, the RHSV objected a proposed 7-storey development at the former London Chartered Bank Chambers (dating from 1888) at 340-342 High Street, Northcote. While the proposal would retain some of the ground floor. The new development will overwhelm the very impressive Italianate façade, robbing the building of its grandeur, crucial to the existing streetscape.

Before the Council made a decision, the developer went to VCAT on the grounds

that a decision had not been made in time. Here, we have a local heritage overlay in place and a planning scheme limit of four storeys, but the developers clearly think VCAT will enable them to make significant inroads in heritage and planning.

Another unusual case is the Porter prefabricated iron store on the former Fitzroy Gasworks site. It is listed on the Victorian Heritage Register because it is one of the last remaining of the many iron prefabs which were imported during the Victorian gold rushes to accommodate the huge influx at a time when workers were leaving building sites in the hope of riches. It was manufactured in England, probably between 1853 and 1856. The government has sought a permit from Heritage Victoria to move the building to clear the

land for development, but corrosion has fused the bolts and greatly weakened the panels; successful reconstruction is highly unlikely: another Porter building in Geelong was carefully dismantled with a view to reconstruction on another site, but the result was a heap of rusting iron. The RHSV has objected to the permit application to prevent loss of this surviving witness to the gold rushes.

Alongside these problems of local heritage, the Fed Square drama illustrates the privatisation policies pose to state heritage. Everyone thought it was a civic square, a public asset. But when the Kennett government gave us Fed Square, they set up Fed Square Pty Ltd to run it. That company has not yet turned a profit and so looks to give over part of the square to Apple for a large store. Apple plan to demolish one of the original buildings, privatising a significant part of the public space

and wrecking the whole architectural ensemble.

The National Trust has nominated Fed Square for listing on the Victorian Heritage Register and the RHSV has given the nomination its strong support (see our statement on the RHSV web site). Tourism Minister John Eren complained that 'it would be unprecedented to heritage list a site that is only 16 years old'. But the pressures of privatisation mean that Fed Square has not had a normal life-cycle for such a major public asset. It is at present a perfect example of late-20th Century architecture and it is almost unique in being a remarkably coherent public space. All designs for the Apple store would destroy that coherence as well as altering the nature of what is now an open public space. So nomination now is the only way to ensure that Fed Square will survive. And there is no doubt that, if left for a generation, it would

have gained heritage status. So it's now or never.

Ron Jones points out that part of Fed Square's public nature is its absence of corporate imagery, neither ACMI nor even NGV Australia dominate it. It is first and foremost 'Fed Square', a square for everyone in Melbourne ('Design of Apple Fed Square requires a fundamental rethink', *Architectureau*, 16 Feb 2018). And, as the eminent historian Graeme Davison has argued, 'Federation Square is already an important part of Melbourne's history, not just as a monument to the centenary of the nation, or for the symbols of civic and national identity it incorporates, but as the legacy of a long tradition ('For what shall it profit a city if it loses its civic soul?' *The Conversation*, 19 February 2018).

Charles Sowerwine

Chair, Heritage Committee, RHSV

Nagambie and District HS hosted 'Housing Our Historical Societies'



*Attendees at Seminar
Photographer I & A Hockley.*

On 23 June the Nagambie and District Historical Society hosted the History Support Group of Victoria (RHSV) seminar at the Nagambie Tennis Club Rooms. The seminar was attended by representatives from Avenel, Castlemaine, Eltham, Euroa, Heathcote-McIvor, Kilmore, Kyneton, Murchison, Maldon, Melbourne, Ballan, Malvern, Stratford and Numurkah societies.

Guest speakers included: Christine Worthington, RHSV Collection Management, Catlin Mitropoulos, National Trust Australia (Vic), and historian Dr

Andrew Lemon. A panel of three HVSG members spoke on various aspects of occupying buildings. Judy Richards (owning a museum building), Larina Struach (occupying a local council building) and Alleyne Hockley (occupying a state government building). Chris Manchee, a RHSV volunteer tour leader, then spoke on how to efficiently conduct walking tours.

The attendees then took part in a Question and Answer time, covering subjects such as insurance, working with children, privacy laws and Ancestry DNA tests. The

successful day finished with a visit to the Nagambie museum.

This was the second HVSG seminar for the year. Both seminars had been booked out and attendees indicated their satisfaction for the programs. HVSG are keen to hear from any group who would like to host a seminar in 2019 and any issues they would like to have discussed at these seminars. Please contact RHSV EO, Rosemary Cameron if you can offer a venue or topics. executive.officer@historyvictoria.org.au
Alleyne Hockley, HVSG Convenor.

Around the Societies

Prepared by volunteer Glenda Beckley on behalf of the History Victoria Support Group.

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 DECEMBER 2018 ISSUE

please send details to office@historyvictoria.org.au by 1st November 2018.

BALWYN: Thursday 13 September at 8 pm - Topic: Back to the Flicks at the Balwyn Evergreen Centre, 45 Talbot Avenue, Balwyn. A presentation by the Cinema and Theatre Historical Society of Australia will take you on a step back in time when a night out at the 'flicks' was a special occasion. Hear about the development of the picture palaces of yesteryear in Balwyn and nearby suburbs.

BENALLA: The Benalla Costume and Kelly Museum has mounted a special exhibition "One Woman's Wardrobe" to celebrate the life of a well-known Benalla identity, Margaret Richardson, who died in 2015. Margaret, at one time a "Moomba Princess", was greatly admired for her sense of style and was to be seen wearing beautiful clothes at all times. She had even been seen mowing her lawn while wearing high fashion and high heels. Her funeral, organised by herself, featured a blue coffin borne by two Clydesdale horses, complete with feathered head-dresses, and pausing outside Margaret's favourite hairdresser which she patronised weekly for many years. The current exhibition displays many of Margaret's gowns, day-wear, jewellery, boots, handbags and other accessories. Opened in June this year, it will be on display for about twelve months.

BRIGHTON: Sunday 9 September at 2:00pm AGM with guest speaker Deborah Tout-Smith, from Museums Victoria who will take us behind the scenes, and talk about her work on early Brighton. Talk is followed by Silver Service afternoon tea. 1st floor (lift available) Bayside Arts and Cultural Centre, corner Wilson and Carpenter Street, Brighton. RSVP ph 9553 8650 or email brightonhs@gmail.com

BUNGAREE: Sunday 16 September we will have a visit to the Lodge and the lovely gardens in springtime at the Moorabool Reservoir. Dennis, Sharon and Colin spend most Tuesdays out at the Moorabool improving all the gardens. Monday 15 October at 7.30 p.m. Leonie and Peter Evenden will speak on post depression Australian pottery and roofing nails. Leonie has an extensive collection of Australia vases and Peter's grandfather invented the Evenden spring roofing nail.

FITZROY: 'Crime in old Fitzroy' Join us on Sunday 23 September beginning at 10.00am for a walk in the Napier-Fitzroy-Nicholson Streets locality that will look at buildings associated with past criminal

activity. We will be joining with the organisers of Crime Tours Melbourne for this walk. Meet outside Royal Terrace in Nicholson Street.

FRIENDS OF CHELTENHAM REGIONAL CEMETERIES: We will be running a tour on Sunday 9 September, 2pm start. Dark tales lurk behind the walls of all old cemeteries - join us for our Murder, Mayhem and Misadventure Tour and discover some of the stories that lay buried at the historic Cheltenham Pioneer Cemetery. Sue Beazley will tell you about murder suicide, a school girl strangled, death of a speed car racer, and one of Cheltenham's most famous cases of domestic violence and murder in the early 1900s, as well as other shocking stories. Cost: \$10 for financial members, \$12 for non-financial participants. Refreshments provided. Bookings are required: info@focrc.org or call Rosemary 9497 1318. We tour come rain, hail or shine, so come prepared with suitable clothing and footwear.

FRIENDS OF GULF STATION: Open Day - Saturday 13 October 2018 10am to 4pm. This is our second big Open Day for the year, which is part of Yarra Valley Seniors Festival and will appear in its printed program; it will also be listed for History Week. We would appreciate any help on the day, particularly: help in the reception area, especially for the first two hours and help in the car park during the first two hours. Do visit on the day and tell your family and friends to come. This is an outline of the program so far: Working Clydesdales, Sheep shearing and sheep dogs, exhibition of Cathy Berry paintings 'inspired by Gulf Station' and bush poetry. The House, garden and farm buildings will be open with guided tours. Also, there will be a plant sale and refreshments (or BYO picnic).

GISBORNE AND MOUNT MACEDON: The Society's collection covers the localities of Cabbage Tree, Couangalt, South Gisborne, Gisborne, New Gisborne, Bullengarook, Macedon, Mount Macedon, Barringo, Cherokee, Heskett, Kerrie and Riddells Creek. The beautifully restored 1858 Gisborne Court House, home of the Society, is open to the public each Wednesday from 10am to 4pm, when volunteers are in attendance to assist with family and local history research enquiries. When the research room is unattended, telephone messages may be left on our answering machine, on:

03 5428 1450 or email to: history@gisbornemountmacedon.org.au

KOROIT: We've had a very busy but enjoyable couple of months. The highlight was this year's Koroit Irish Festival. The weather was perfect which always helps. This year we had our displays in the Blackwood Centre as usual and helped with the horse and carriage rides. One of our historic photographs, The Koroit Irish Pipe Band, featured on Irish Festival publicity and created a lot of interest itself. We decided on a theme of school days and the Irish Festival committee procured an old style school bus which they parked in the street. We decorated the bus with blown up photographs of school groups from our collection. On the Sunday a Gaelic football match was played on the oval, with a good crowd watching, we opened the museum and quite a number of visitors attended. We all agreed that this was the best Irish Festival yet.

LEONGATHA: The Shingler Lecture/Dinner. This year the event will be held on Saturday September 15 at 6.30 pm. The guest speakers will be Dorothy Giles with the assistance of others who will tell us about the history of the Great Southern Star and the Gannon family's connection to newspapers in South Gippsland.

LILYDALE: As part of a new project, the society is looking for any photos people may have of the Main Street in the 1940s to 1970s. From the 1980s, Sandy Ross walked up and down Main Street photographing each business and we now want to

fill in the gaps from earlier years. All contributions will be acknowledged in our Main Street Project. You may have a happy snap at the band rotunda, war memorial, standing outside a shop or fishing the Olinda Creek. If you have any photos and are willing to share them, please contact Sue Thompson (0475 219 884) who will arrange a time for you to bring your images in so we can scan them and add them to our collection. Your photos won't be damaged and will be scanned on the spot.

NARRE WARREN: The Society will be holding 'Peace at Last', a World War 1 walk in the Lang Lang Cemetery. Date: Sunday the 12 October at 10:00am. Entry Fee: \$5. Bookings are essential. Location: 375 McDonalds Track, Lang Lang, off the South Gippsland Highway. Our Group

is working with the Lang Lang Historical Society to hold this walk. Our book for the cemetery tour will be for sale on the day, plus our other cemetery tour books. Please contact Jane Rivett-Carnac cemetery.tours@nwfhg.org.au, Lynne Bradley president@nwfhg.org.au or phone 8787 5558.

NEPEAN: Family History at the Nepean Historical Society Museum is a new service for members and visitors. Each month on the Saturday following our Friday monthly meeting, from 1-30 - 4-30pm at the Museum, our Committee Member Annette Buckland will be available to help those researching families from our area. We invite descendants to view and correct or add to the large amount of information already in our archives and on line, and to learn the best ways to search for further information about your family. Dates to remember: Saturday 7 July 1.30-4.30 pm, Saturday 4 August 1.30-4.30 pm, Saturday 6 October 1.30 - 4.30pm

Note: Charts will be available for sale to help record what you know about your ancestors.

PHILLIP ISLAND: Friday October 19, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Open Day for Seniors Festival. Refreshments available all day. Special display on Phillip Island's WWI soldiers and sailors. Come and try our touchscreen while you visit!

PORT FAIRY: 'Icons of Port Fairy', will be a major change for our museum. New displays are being prepared and they will include important items borrowed from their museums. The program booklet with photographs and background detail on the 'Icons' should be a valuable record of Port Fairy history. We plan extended museum openings through the September school holidays from 22 September and the exhibition will continue with usual opening times until 30 January. With the court display and most of the seating stored away there will be no room for general meetings. Between September and January we have been given permission to use the Port Fairy Library as our meeting place.

RED CLIFFS: We are working on a project which will recognize the pioneer servicemen 'blockies' of Red Cliffs. We aim to collect a photo of the 700 plus men, and one woman, granted an allocation in our WW1 Soldier Settlement. We still have 355 photos to collect. We are keen to

hear from anyone whose ancestor was an original Red Cliffs Soldier Settler. Contact lizrp57@gmail.com

RYE: 24 September at 8:00pm - Guest Speaker (after the meeting) is Mr Greg Eccleston, who will speak about the early surveyors who did the field work on the southern Peninsula and generated the maps essential for administering the Colony of Victoria. At the Rye Primary School, Collingwood Street, Rye.

SANDRINGHAM: Our annual exhibition this year is 'By the seaside'. The launch of the exhibition for members and invited guests will be held at 2pm on Sunday 30 September at our Resource Centre. The exhibition will then open for public viewing at our rooms throughout October including during the Seniors Festival. Local history enthusiasts will enjoy this photographic exhibition of family life at the seaside covering the early to mid-20th Century.

SUNSHINE: Saturday, 15 September 2018 - Blackbird Maribyrnong River Cruise.

Welcome aboard the Blackbird ferry again. Last year we travelled the Maribyrnong River. This year we will be going upstream on the Maribyrnong River where it meets up with the Yarra River and cruising past the Port of Melbourne and Docklands. Maximum capacity 30 people. Cost \$21 per person. Bookings for this excursion are essential. Please contact Olwen Ford on 9312 2284 if you wish to come along.

WARRACKNABEAL: At last year's 150th celebrations, the time capsule, which had been buried in 1988, was raised. It was decided it would be appropriate to bury another capsule with the intention of it being dug up for Warracknabeal's bi-centennial in 2067. So, in June, another capsule was buried near the tourist centre. Many items were placed in the capsule including lists of all school students from the 4 local schools. Current stamps, silo trail information and a shire Community Directory were also included.

WARRAGUL: Meetings held in the Old Shire Hall, Queen Street, Warragul on the last Monday in each month, at 7:30pm. Museum open Thursdays 10am to 2 pm, 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month 2pm to 4pm. Closed during December and January.

Address all information and queries to the Hon Secretary, Warragul & District Historical Society, P.O. Box 310, Warragul,

3820 Email: wdhsoc@live.com Telephone 0438 232 105.

WHITEHORSE: Heritage Family Day - "A Walk in the Park" Sunday 16 September 11am to 4pm at Schwerkolt Cottage Museum Complex Deep Creek Road, Mitcham. For more information contact 03 9873 4946 or whitehorsehistory@hotmail.com www.facebook.com/whitehorsehistory Bring the family, BYO picnic and join us for a day of fun and laughter. This is a true family day with free activities for the children and guided tours of the Cottage.

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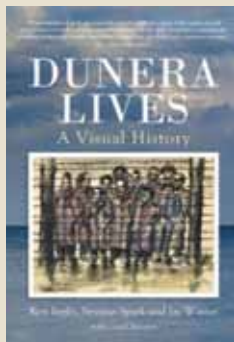
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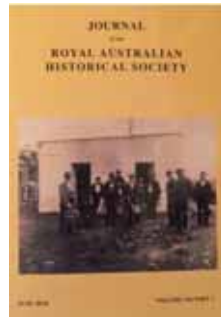
Authors, publishers and Historical Societies are invited to contribute books to the RHSV for the library and for consideration for inclusion in Books Received.



Dunera Lives: A Visual History.

Ken Inglis, Seumas Spark, Jay Winter & Carol Bunyan, Monash University Publishing, Melbourne Australia, 2018, pp ix- 549, ISBN 9781925495492.

Dunera Lives reminds the reader that World War Two was so much more nuanced than simply a battle between Axis and the Allies, so many more shades of grey than just 'good' and 'bad'. In July 1940, about 2000 men from Germany and Austria were sent to Australia from Britain as detainees. These men were Jewish and Christian, pro and anti-Nazi, they were writers, painters, musicians and workers. They were just ordinary people, trying to escape the conflict and were forced to suffer maltreatment both on the HMT Dunera and in the camps in which they were interred. This is a beautifully sad book, well-spaced with images and text. It gives us a glimpse into a war time world that you don't normally get to see, one that is important we don't forget.



Journal of the Royal Australian Historical Society Volume 104 Part 1.

Royal Australian Historical Society, Sydney Australia, June 2018, pp 7 – 119, ISSN 00358762.

Volume 104 of the Journal of the Royal Australian Historical Society has something for everyone's historical interests. For the train buffs, a journey of Australia's rail gauge unification. For those looking for something a bit more sinister, the reactions to the 1900 Sydney outbreak of plague and women transported for forged bank notes. There is an article about the early surveys at Port Macquarie and another on internationalism in 1923 Sydney. Ten quick book reviews finish off a most varied and interesting volume of this journal.



'A Secondary Education for all?' A History of State Secondary Schooling in Victoria.

John Andrews & Deborah Towns, Australian Scholarly Publishing Pty Ltd, Melbourne Australia, 2017, pp xi – 394, ISBN 9781925588491

This wonderful (and hefty!) work on the history of state schools in Victoria could only have been given its due by two history teachers. Andrews and Towns have collaborated to create a unique text not only on the history of secondary schooling, but short histories of schools across Victoria. A historical honour normally reserved for private schools with funds and resources to devote to such an undertaking, this book pays homage to the state school teachers, administrators and students. This book is exceptionally well researched, interestingly written and skilfully executed.



Art Captured. Hans-Wolter von Gruenewaldt. Prisoner of War Camp 13 Murchison: his story and art.

Compiled by Kay Ball, Murchison and District Historical Society Inc, Victoria, Australia, 2017, pp viii- 96, ISBN 9780992476816

The life of Hans-Wolter von Gruenewaldt was an extraordinary one. A German civilian living in South Africa at the outbreak of World War Two, Hans-Wolter attempted to return home to Germany. However, his boat was sunk, and he was transported on the infamous HMT Dunera to a British POW camp in Australia. This book showcases the artwork he created during his time as a prisoner, tells the story of the POW camp 13 Murchison and Hans-Wolter's personal story in his own words. Through the saturation of World War Two literature, this book is a standout, challenging the reader to relate to a man who was technically 'the enemy'.



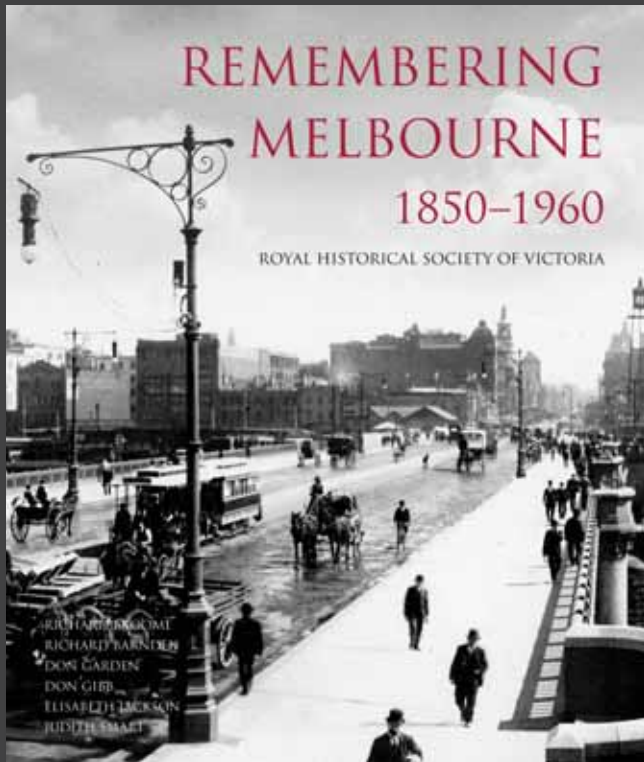
Life on the Bend. A social history of Fishermans Bend, Melbourne.

Prepared for Fishermans Bend Taskforce, July 2017, The State of Victoria Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning, 2017, pp 1 – 164, ISBN 9781769478384

The history of Fishermans Bend acts as a microcosm of Victorian and indeed Australian colonial past. This book layers periods of time over several themes; living on the land, Aboriginal dispossession, industrialisation, poverty, social reform and others. The sandy, marshy swampland at Port Melbourne has been a place for Aboriginal corroborees, a mooring point, a camping ground, a rubbish tip, a factory site and a home to a community that has waxed, waned and revitalised again. This book keeps that history keenly in our minds as the area undergoes a new era of revitalisation.

REMEMBERING MELBOURNE

Returns - and for \$35!



On Melbourne Day, 30 August, the updated version of Remembering Melbourne 1850-1960 was launched at the RHSV and is now on sale. This stunning book, which sold out at the RHSV in just four weeks, is currently available to enhance your book shelves and delight those who receive it as a gift. The price is again a sensational \$35 (pick up from the RHSV), or plus postage and handling for mail orders <http://www.historyvictoria.org.au/>

All proceeds from sales will boost our growing Victorian Historian Journal Future Fund, aimed to secure our century-old journal, currently the second oldest, continuously published, history journal in Australia.

GUIDED WALKS IN HISTORIC FLAGSTAFF GARDENS

GUIDED WALKS EVERY MONDAY

Time	11am
Where	Meet here at the Royal Historical Society of Victoria, 239 A' Beckett St
Cost	\$10 Children under 16 free
Duration	75 minutes
Booking preferred email	At reception, or 9326 9288 office@historyvictoria.org.au

Flagstaff Gardens, which are just to your right, are Melbourne's oldest gardens. They take their name from a flagstaff erected in 1840 at the settlement's highest point, in order to communicate between the harbour and town. This became known as "Flagstaff Hill". Before this, the area was used as a cemetery and was known as Burial Hill. (There is a memorial in the gardens that marks the graves of the first European settlers.)

