



History News

ISSUE 373 | AUGUST 2024

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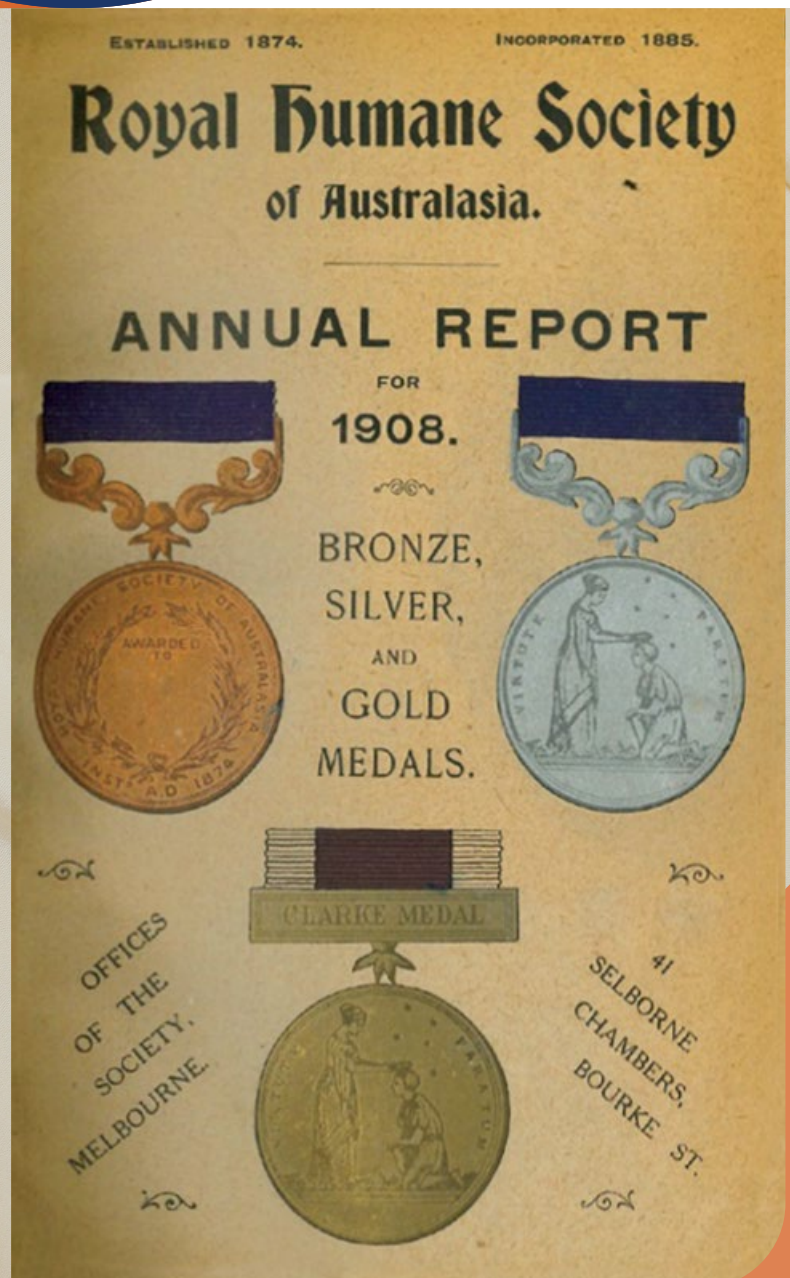
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What's on at RHSV

Where possible we offer all our events as hybrid: both in our premises at 239 A'Beckett St, Melbourne and via Zoom. Information on booking tickets to all our events can be found on our website.

ENGINEERING HERITAGE VICTORIA EVENT: HUGH RALSTON CRAWFORD: INNOVATOR OR IMITATOR?

Date: Thursday 15 August

Time: 5:30pm for 6pm – 7pm lecture

Cost: \$10 | \$20

Event type: hybrid in person and on Zoom

Speaker: David Beauchamp

This will be the second of the 4 events we co-present with Engineering Heritage Victoria each year.

David Beauchamp will regale us with stories of Hugh Ralston Crawford, who was a consulting engineer, a pioneer in reinforced concrete work in Australia. He was granted a provisional patent for monolithic reinforced concrete cavity wall construction in 1907, and later used the system to erect several concrete structures in Melbourne, including the Sniders and Abraham's cigarette factory, various concrete framed Commonwealth offices, banks, and telephone exchanges.

David Beauchamp has been a significant advocate for the preservation and restoration of heritage buildings and an engineering consultant in the field for over 40 years.

HUGH ANDERSON LECTURE: RENOVATION OR REVISION: (RE) WRITING INDIGENOUS AND INSTITUTIONAL HISTORIES

Date: Tuesday 30 August

Time: 5:30pm for 6pm – 7pm lecture

Cost: \$10 | \$20

Event type: hybrid in person and on Zoom

Speaker: Ross Jones

We are thrilled that Dr Ross L Jones will deliver the third Hugh Anderson Lecture in the RHSV's Distinguished Lecturer series. Eric Hobsbawm wrote that national histories comprise 'anachronism, omission, decontextualization and, in extreme cases, lies.' If we substitute 'nation' with 'university' does the truth hold, especially for foundational institutions in settler colonies, such as the University of Melbourne? In this lecture Dr Jones will take a number of case studies highlighted in his latest publication *Dhoombak Goobgoowana* and ask what this work has accomplished and whether it encourages a radical re-thinking of the role of institutional histories. Along the way he hopes to explain the strong connections between an eighteenth-century cockney pedestrian, a leading twentieth-century Australian psychologist, Indigenous knowledge and Hugh Anderson's historical project.

Dr. Ross L Jones is a Senior Research Fellow at the University of Melbourne's Centre for the Study of Higher Education, focusing on Indigenous history. His recent publication, *Dhoombak Goobgoowana: a History of Indigenous Australia and the University of Melbourne, Volume 1: Truth*, co-edited with James Waghorne and Marcia Langton, is available as a free e-book from Melbourne University Press.

HSSC SEMINAR LEONGATHA



Date: Saturday 17 – Sunday 18 August

Time: 9am – 3:15pm

Cost: Free | \$55

Event type: in person

This is our second Historical Societies Support Committee (HSSC) regional seminar for 2024. Drawing on the experience of local and visiting speakers, the seminar will explore how your local research and collections can lead to valuable publications and uncover wider themes and stories. The program is spread across Leongatha and Korumburra which are only about 15 mins drive apart. The full program and accommodations options can be found on our website. We love our weekends out of Melbourne and we encourage members of historical societies to 'take a break' and enjoy some great history in a breath-taking setting. Speakers include Rees Quilford, Sam Gatto, Rosalie Triolo, Rosemary Cameron, Craige Proctor, Neil Breeden and Lyn Skillern.

What's on is continued
on page 9



History News

History News is the bi-monthly newsletter of the RHSV ROYAL HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF VICTORIA INC.

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President's report

For the historical society movement to be relevant, successful, and sustainable it must look in many directions: to the past and to the future, to the inside and to the out. This was reinforced to me at several historical society events in recent months.

At Mortlake in May the RHSV's Historical Societies Support Committee sponsored an event which was co-hosted with the Mortlake and District Historical Society. Societies around the region gathered to discuss with great animation and inventiveness their own history work and how they were progressing it forward. They were looking both backward and forward.

The Association of Eastern Historical Societies, based in Melbourne's eastern region held a fabulous conference in late June at Lilydale. It was a great success as the twelve speakers together looked both ways, to the past and particularly to their futures. Historical societies must have a passion to understand the past of their local area, to be concerned with the parish pump as it were. This is their reason for existence, and the power that comes from a particular place, drives local identity and a sense of rootedness, that makes all of us feel whole as humans.

Other speakers emphasised the need to prepare for the future. Societies don't just happen. The origins of each historical society thirty, fifty, even a hundred years ago came from planning and advocacy by a group of people who had a vision of protecting their past and using it to inform and inspire their futures. Looking both ways means we must not be complacent about the future and assume our group will always be. We must work towards the future by planning for it in the present and working out how to survive and be

sustainable into the future. We need to think about the risks of the future and how we might counter them.

As vibrant historical societies, the other directions we must look is both inside and out and these two views are connected. As societies we must look to making our own organisation the best it can be in terms of how it plans to maintain and protect its collection and make it more relevant. Asking and answering these questions will strengthen our societies from within.

But we must look outwards too and embed our societies into the community around them. Ask yourself: how can your historical society serve the local community, in a manner that goes beyond the collections that we build and keep. Can your society help with the problems of others? Today, many people, particularly men, seem isolated and lonely, trapped at home in their solitude. By devising strategies, by reaching out, your society will be more relevant and perhaps strengthened.

Governments will reward these efforts. Recently the Minister for Government Services, the Honourable Gabrielle Williams, decided, after advocacy from the RHSV and many of its affiliated societies, to find funds in a straitened state budget to support the Victorian Community History Awards and the small grants program, albeit at a reduced level, for the next two years. This decision will support the futures of many historical society's writers who write their histories, and the designers, printers and publishers across Victoria who will benefit from this decision. Thank you Minister Williams, you have looked both ways!

Richard Broome AM

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■ 'Motstone', 172–182 Walsh Street, South Yarra. Photo Melbourne Planning Scheme Amendment C426melb, South Yarra Heritage Review, Panel Report (City of Melbourne, Report to the Future Melbourne Committee, Attachment 2, Agenda item 6.1.11 June 2024), p. 87.



Heritage report: ugly ducklings, six packs and heritage myths

In June I received a call from an *Age* reporter. She had been “tipped off” that residents of a 1960 South Yarra apartment building called ‘Motstone’ were fighting a Heritage Overlay on their building. The owners’ corporation spent \$100,000 to hire a planning lawyer and heritage consultant to oppose the listing because they feared heritage listing would destroy ‘hopes of selling the postwar building to a developer’ (*The Age*, 11 June 2024 and *The Age*, 12 June 2024).

This case raises all the issues that arise when a local Heritage Overlay is proposed. I want to use this column to bust the myths surrounding heritage and property, with thanks to the National Trust (Victoria): <https://www.trustadvocate.org.au/myth-busting-local-heritage-controls/>

Fear of missing out on the developer’s pot of gold is often at the root of opposition to the Heritage Overlay. But if you get to the end of the rainbow, will you find that pot of gold? Developers are not in business to enrich home owners. They

pay market prices, not more than they need to pay. In fact, home owners benefit from heritage listing. An ‘Australian Productivity Commission study reported that, on average, heritage-listed houses (on Sydney’s North Shore in this case) commanded a 12% premium over unlisted houses.’ This makes sense because heritage neighbourhoods are often attractive and better protected against over-development. See: Ben Collier <https://www.bencollierteam.com.au/property-investment/does-a-heritage-listing-on-a-property-impact-its-sales-price/>

The owners’ main argument was that Motstone ‘is not attractive and does not have aesthetic value’. It was, one owner said to the *Age*, an ‘ugly duckling’.

Motstone reflects Modernist design, in which form follows function: clean lines, flat rooves and rectilinear forms reflecting the interior spaces, sheer walls of cream brick and extensive window walls of glass flooding the living spaces with light. Modernism provided most of Melbourne’s new housing after World War II (WWII), most typically in ‘six pack’ flats: three-level buildings with two flats on each floor, fitting a typical suburban block, narrow

and deep, like the two-bottle end of a six-pack facing the street.

Motstone is not a six pack, as the *Age* articles suggested. It displays more refined traits of Modernism, especially its front curtain wall of glass and aluminium panels, often associated with Modernist office buildings. (Technically a ‘faux’ curtain wall because it has load-bearing elements, but this is not readily apparent.) Indeed, Motstone innovated by adapting the curtain wall to accommodate balconies.

Today, many view Modernist buildings as ‘ugly ducklings’, but in the 1950s and 1960s, Melbournians saw Victorian buildings as the ‘ugly ducklings’. They wanted clean, modern lines. Whelan the Wrecker was working overtime. But when I arrived in Melbourne in 1974, everyone was lamenting the recent destruction of priceless Victorian gems. The ugly ducklings were now beautiful swans. For more information see the 2022 SBS documentary, *The Lost City of Melbourne*.

Modernism’s clean and functional lines, rectilinear forms, and walls of glass will come back into fashion. Indeed, the trend is beginning. A 2023 property newsletter



44 Type Street, Richmond, a typical 'six pack' apartment block, c.1960. Photo: Jana Perković, 'Singing the praises of the six-pack apartment in Richmond', Assemble Papers, 16 July 2019.

noted 'a strong market for sleek mid-century modern properties in Sydney's Eastern Suburbs' (Collier). Motstone is potentially sleek mid-century modern, just needing restoration, a duckling awaiting rebirth.

The owners questioned more broadly 'whether postwar flats contribute to the significance' or indeed were 'meaningful to the history of South Yarra'. A casual stroll around South Yarra shows the importance of these flats. A major aim of heritage protection is to save buildings which tell us about our past and these buildings are an important part of that past, particularly relevant as we leap into a new housing boom. The role of these post-war Modernist flats in providing housing quickly and cheaply after WWII is too obvious to deny.

Motstone was considered as part of a South Yarra Heritage Study which did an excellent job of selecting precincts and individually important buildings from all eras to keep our past visible and help shape a better future. The City of Melbourne accepted the study but removed Motstone, apparently to satisfy the owners. If the Minister approves the study for implementation, South Yarra will tell its story, sadly without Motstone.

Charles Sowerwine, Chair,
Heritage Committee, RHSV.
9 July 2024.



Heathmont History Group: Herman Pump seat and plaque

On July 7th 2024 the Heathmont History Group and the Friends of Herman Pump Reserve, Heathmont, group led by local resident Ann Heskett, and with the support of Maroondah Council, installed a Herman Pump tribute plaque on a new seat in the Reserve. Twelve members of the Pump family were present, some having come from Queensland for the occasion. Family members and the Mayor of Ringwood, Councillor Kylie Spears, cut the ribbons with the same scissors that Herman's wife Louise used to cut the ribbon at the opening of the Heathmont Railway Station on May 1 1926! The event was well supported by local residents, and concluded with more than 60 folk singing Happy Birthday to Herman Pump, who was born on the same date exactly 150 years ago: July 7th 1874.

In 1890, 16-year-old Herman(n) Pump migrated from Bremen in Germany to Melbourne. He worked on family orchards in Doncaster and East Burwood, then in 1896 bought 50 acres of undulating virgin bush in a district soon after named Heathmont. In 1899 he married Louise Zerbe, and in the following decades they established an orchard. Herman was an outstanding and well-liked leader of the young Heathmont community. He was a member of the Cool Store committee for more than 40 years, including a term as President, and a committee member of the Heathmont Cricket Club for 27 years, again including a term as President. In the 1920s he held the same positions in the Railway League as the locals agitated for a station, and when it was opened in 1926 Louise was chosen to cut the ribbon. Also, he was a foundation member of each of the Ringwood Bowling Club, the Ringwood Horticultural and Agricultural Association and the Heathmont Progress Association.

Their land included a creek gully unsuitable for residential use when the property was subdivided as the orchard era ended. In 1961 Herman's grandson Brian Pump successfully suggested to Ringwood Council that the gully be named the Herman Pump Reserve as a tribute to Herman's community involvement. Since then, the Council and local residents have developed this into a very attractive linear reserve, featuring a winding pathway, a playground, seats and substantial areas of native vegetation. Brian died in 2021. His family members who shared in this 2024 event celebrating the community celebration of the life of Herman were delighted that the tribute is in such a pleasant environment.

Heathmont History Group meets each Tuesday morning 0418 867255

Gerry Robinson
Heathmont History Group

HSSC report: finding solutions to some of our societies' challenges

You need not search or travel far to find a wealth of ideas to support your society through the oft-reported challenges of declining volunteers, ordinary members and grant opportunities. If you are experiencing such challenges, you should also not think you are alone. But this article is not about such negatives. The fact is that many individuals and societies are bucking negative trends and their efforts should be more widely known. Where can these tips to success be found? This article offers five easy-to-access positive points of reference.

1) RHSV's *History News*, especially 'Around the Societies': <https://www.historyvictoria.org.au/publications/history-news/>

The value of *History News* cannot be understated.

As its page on the RHSV website states,

History News contains a veritable trove of information useful to those who have an interest in local history. This page contains an online archive of the RHSV History News going back to 2005. Many of the issues are available on this page for download in PDF format. Where possible, missing issues will be added in the future.

Personally, I read each edition in full as soon as released. In part, I enjoy knowing what is happening at present but 'historically' Victoria-wide, but I also feel a responsibility considering I am a councilor as well as member of a committee that expressly supports historical societies - you. Through relaxed evening reading, I learn a great deal from others' unique histories as well as latest activities. Two years ago, I leafed through the previous five years of *History News* with a lens that was less for me and more for HSSC. The professional learning was rich and efficient and I have easily referred inquirers to useful strategies, if not whole articles.

You might choose to undertake sustained reading for yourself, even further back than five years, and share with your society's executive and volunteers anything relevant to needs. But, a better approach might be to allocate several editions to a small working party of readers and meet after an allocated time, as if a 'book club', to discuss solutions to challenges or entirely new ideas and how to enact them in your circumstances.

2) RHSV's website:

<https://www.historyvictoria.org.au/>

HSSC has previously promoted the value of RHSV's website and can only again recommend time given to deep diving. Aside from the many documents and links to useful government and non-government organisations, RHSV's events are rich historical knowledge and practical advice of their own ...

3) RHSV and HSSC events, promoted most often in 'What's On': <https://www.historyvictoria.org.au/rhsv-events/>

RHSV and HSSC events are often a celebration of the best work. In-person or Zoom attendance, with the former being preferable where possible, also facilitate collegial dialogue.

HSSC recently delivered a well-evaluated weekend of lectures, workshops and site visits at Mortlake. The Mortlake hosts were gratified by the attendance of historical society representatives from Melbourne as well as north-eastern Victoria who not only benefitted professionally but made a social break of it: <https://www.historyvictoria.org.au/event/regional-seminar-weekend-in-mortlake/>

No two RHSV or HSSC programs are the same. The next HSSC opportunity for professional learning and collegial discussion for all local and family history enthusiasts will be at Leongatha, Gippsland, 17-18 August: <https://www.historyvictoria.org.au/event/regional-seminar-weekend-in-leongatha-korumburra-utilising-your-historical-research/>

In mid-October, HSSC plans also to run a 'Strengthening your Historical Society' day at RHSV's central city base of the Drill Hall, also to be zoomed into Victoria for those unable to travel. Quite simply, keep checking 'What's On' for something relevant to you.

4) Historical society, network and other Victorian-Australian history events: <https://www.historyvictoria.org.au/events-calendar/?tribe-bar-date=2024-07>

While attending your own or other societies' or networks' events might seem obvious, not enough members are aware of RHSV's provision of a calendar for promoting their events as well as learning about others'. The 'Events Calendar' page declares,

Our Events Calendar contains all events of the RHSV (exhibitions, seminars, lectures), historical societies and organisations throughout Victoria. It's free to add your group's event to the RHSV Events Calendar as long as it is about Victorian History or an Australian History themed event occurring in Victoria.

You might design an event that brings together speakers and attendees expressly to work on shared challenges. The page has powerful multiplier potential.

5) The Federation of Australian Historical Societies website: <https://www.history.org.au/>

While RHSV's *Old News* often mentions the release of e-publications from 'the Federation' or 'FAHS', too few RHSV members know enough about its existence, work and resources. 'About', on the FAHS home page, advises that,

The Federation of Australian Historical Societies was established in 1977, has eight constituent members, one in each state and territory, and is the national peak body representing the interests of about 1,000 historical societies and about 100,000 members throughout Australia.

Their members provide hundreds of thousands of hours of work to collect documents and images, research and publish history, present public lectures and exhibitions, protect and preserve built and place heritage, collect material objects and exhibit them in museums, and make an invaluable contribution to heritage tourism.

The people mentioned in the second paragraph are 'you'. While FAHS runs very few events, the support resources and a strong national picture of activity, including shared challenges and how societies are seeking best to address them, make another deep dive, and perhaps allocated reading opportunity, worthwhile. Signing up to FAHS e-News is free: <https://www.history.org.au/enews/> Historical societies which attract local and family history enthusiasts not only preserve and promote Australia's history and heritage, they serve an intelligent meeting point for recreational good. HSSC would be very surprised if you did not find supports you might need and wholly fresh ideas from your review of the above.

More in time,

Rosalie Triolo

Chair: HSSC

Email: hssc@historyvictoria.org.au

RHSV Publications Committee: passing the baton

In the words of Richard Broome, he is 'reverting to an ex officio ordinary member of the RHSV Publications Committee...'

The Publications Committee expresses our gratitude for the work Professor Richard Broome has undertaken as Chair of the Publications Committee for the past 12 years. For much of that time Richard has also been President of the RHSV, yet he also found time to undertake revitalisation of the committee and has been largely responsible for initiating many of its projects and overseeing their completion during the years of his chairmanship. These include coordinating the production and contributing to the writing of *Remembering Melbourne, Melbourne's Twenty Decades, The Story of Melbourne Lanes: Essential but Unplanned*, and the completion of Don Gibb's *Canterbury: A History* (with extra chapters by Jill Barnard). Richard's other contributions include: 'finalising the digitisation of the *Victorian Historical Journal* through State Library Victoria and arrangement for its online indexing by INFORMIT, Scopus and Web of Science; completion of the Judge Willis online project; establishment of the VHJ Patrons (Future) Fund and the Editorial Board; co-editorship with Judy Smart of the VHJ since November 2017; and recruitment of the current editor of *History News*. Richard promises to stay on the committee and to continue to co-edit the journal. He also has new publication ideas in mind. So, watch this space. Meanwhile, our heartfelt thanks Richard for all your work.

John Schauble, a member of RHSV since 1982, has stepped into the role of Publications Committee Chairman. John brings to the role a wealth of experience including member of the Publications Committee since 2019; supporting the *History News* editor and undertaking the considerable work of writing the book notes for each issue; a contributor to the *VHJ*; and a distinguished career in journalism.

Carole Woods
Judith Smart
Sharon Betridge



■ **Top:** Some of the Melbourne Maltese volunteers with photographs from their own migration records. Left to right: Jo Moule, Jane Bonnet, Rosemary Attard, Carmen Merrigan and Lou Drofenik.

Bottom left: Rosemary onboard the Arosa Kulm with, from left to right: Fr Azzopardi (the voyage chaplain), John Mirabatur, Mr Moran (the Australian Migration Officer) and Anthony Vella.

Rosemary, John and Anthony all helped teach other passengers English during the voyage to Australia. Courtesy of Rosemary Attard.

Bottom right: Rosemary Attard wearing her 'Miss Arosa Kulm' sash and holding a copy of her migration photograph from 1956. Record R645072024: National Volunteer Week - Image 4

NAA: valuing our volunteers: Maltese project

As one of several volunteer projects across National Archives, volunteers from Melbourne's Maltese community are making Maltese migration records more accessible to the public. Since June 2023, every fortnight, up to 8 volunteers visit the North Melbourne Research Centre to work on these records. The records include:

- applications for migration to Australia
- medical and radiologist reports
- police clearances
- black and white photographs.

The records were originally harder to find as they were bundled together by voyage. The volunteers have been repackaging and describing each individual or family's records so they can be located by name on RecordSearch. They bring their knowledge of Maltese names and spellings to this work.

Sofar, the volunteers have helped repackage and describe over 2600 individual items from 10 migration voyages.

Through the project, the volunteers have discovered personal records relating to relatives, friends and neighbours back in Malta and their own families' migration records. They have shared

many memories, including of their own voyages. One of the volunteers, Rosemary Attard nee Sapiano, recently brought in photographs and memorabilia from her own voyage to Australia on the *Arosa Kulm* in 1956. One item was a white sash with the embroidered words 'T.S. Arosa Kulm'. This was presented to Rosemary by the ship's captain for winning a beauty pageant enroute to Melbourne. The Melbourne press photographed Rosemary when she arrived under the headline 'A queen arrives to stay'. Rosemary fondly recalls that she shared the page with a story about the glamorous Princess Margaret! On 28 June, a special lunch was organised for the Maltese volunteers, who were also presented with special certificates of appreciation by Josephine Secis, the National Archives' Assistant Director-General for Collection Management.

The National Archives of Australia gratefully acknowledges the assistance of the Maltese Community Council of Victoria Inc. in helping to recruit the volunteers for this project.

Patrick Ferry
National Archives of Australia
Assistant State Manager
Public Engagement | Victoria

Fellowships and other Awards announced at the RHSV AGM

At our AGM on 28 May 2024, we elected two new fellows to the RHSV: congratulations and welcome to Dr Helen Doyle FRHSV and John Schauble FRHSV.

Listed below are the recipients of all the RHSV awards for 2024. We congratulate the recipients for their very well-deserved awards which speak to the huge amount of dedicated volunteer work, expertise and wisdom they gift their historical societies year after year. We are all the richer for their work. The criteria for the awards and citations for recipients in 2024 are on the RHSV website.

Fellows

Dr Helen Doyle. For outstanding service to the history and heritage of Victoria for some 30 years, especially through conservation studies, the Heritage Council of Victoria, judging of the Victorian Community History Awards and publications. Member of the RHSV since 1998.

John Schauble. For outstanding service to the RHSV Publications Committee especially through *History News* and various publications. Brings experience as a highly distinguished journalist and expertise in other fields to the society. Member of the RHSV since 1982.

Associate fellows

Linda Barraclough. For remarkable contribution to the history of Gippsland for more than 40 years, especially through

her contribution to several local historical societies, development of the Kapana Press, the Gippsland Cataloguing Network and the Combined Gippsland History Database.

Frank van Straten AM. For outstanding service to theatre history, especially through the development of the Australian Performing Arts Collection and Theatre Heritage Australia and his many publications and broadcasts. Member of the RHSV since 1973.

This was the inaugural election of Associate Fellows of the RHSV. The RHSV established this new award for 'a member of ten years' standing of an RHSV affiliated society who has rendered outstanding service to the member society and to the Australian history movement with special reference to the history of Victoria'. Service should extend far beyond one historical society.

Sadly, as we were preparing the citations for our inaugural Associate Fellows, we learnt of the serious illness of Frank van Straten AM who was to receive one of the new awards. We brought forward the approval process and arranged for presentation of the award to Frank in hospital shortly before he died.

Distinguished Service Award

Sharon Betridge. For exceptional service to the RHSV, especially through editorship of *History News*. Member of RHSV since 2015.

Awards Of Merit

Geoff Arnott | Croydon Historical Society
Helen Boak | Royal Historical Society of Victoria

Bob Chalmers | Essendon Historical Society

Helen Curkpatrick | Western Victorian Association of Historical Societies

Graham Gouling OAM | Moe & District Historical Society

Deidre Hawkins | Kinglake Historical Society

Anne Kilpatrick | Glen Eira Historical Society

Elaine McCallum | Birchip Historical Society

Michael Menzies | Western Victorian Association of Historical Societies

Dr John Parry | Sunshine and District Historical Society

Barbara Nixon Volunteer Award

Ashley Smith. For sustained service to the research and publications program of RHSV and especially articles for *Docklands News*.

Federation of Australian Historical Societies Award.

Dr Rosalie Triolo presented Emeritus Professor Charles "Chips" Sowerwine with a Fellowship of the Federation of Australian Historical Societies.

Rosemary Cameron and Carole Woods



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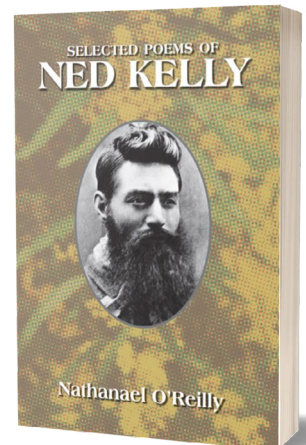
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— Stuart Barnes
Author of *Like to the Lark* and *Glasshouses*



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What's on at RHSV

continued from page 2

Where possible we offer all our events as hybrid: both in our premises at 239 A'Beckett St, Melbourne and via Zoom. Information on booking tickets to all our events can be found on our website.

TRACING MADAME BRUSSELS: A PUBLIC FIGURE WITH AN ELUSIVE BACKGROUND

Date: Tuesday 17 September
Time: 5:30pm for 6pm – 7pm lecture
Cost: \$10 | \$20
Event type: hybrid in person and on Zoom
Speaker: Barbara Minchinton

Barbara Minchinton will deliver our September lecture based on the research for her latest book.

Madame Brussels was Melbourne's most vilified nineteenth century brothel-keeper, but little has been known about Caroline Hodgson, the woman who played the role. There were no Visitors' Books to reveal her networks, and few letters written in her own hand. Family material which came to light in 2018 provided some clues, and a German genealogist found others, but for her biography the details of her life in Melbourne were largely sourced from newspapers and government records. The story that emerged was the story of Melbourne's sex industry from 1871 to its criminalisation in 1908.

Barbara Minchinton is a historian and independent researcher who has worked extensively with the collections of the Public Record Office Victoria as a volunteer. Her first book *The Women of Little Lon: Sex Workers in Nineteenth-Century Melbourne* won the Victorian Community History Publication Award for 2022. Barbara's latest book, published in July 2024 by La Trobe University Press, is *Madame Brussels: The Life and Times of Melbourne's Most Notorious Woman*.

GRAVE MATTERS: USING VICTORIA'S CEMETERIES AS A RESEARCH TOOL

Date: Saturday 12 October
Time: 9am – 3:45pm, full day seminar
Cost: \$65 / \$85
Event type: in person only

Discover the hidden stories in Victoria's cemetery records. Join us in partnership with the GSV for an enlightening seminar where leading experts will reveal how cemetery records can be a treasure trove for local and family historians. Learn techniques to deepen your research and

unearth fascinating stories about the past. Whether you are a seasoned historian or just starting your journey, this seminar is an invaluable opportunity to enhance your research skills and connect with a community of history enthusiasts. You will gain strategies for using cemetery records to expand your local and family history knowledge, tips for interpreting cemetery elements and records, and learn about resources available from the RHSV and GSV. Light lunch, tea and coffee will be provided. Speakers include, Dr Celestina Sgazio, Dr Cheryl Griffin, Rod Armstrong, Friends of Cemetery Groups and representatives from the RHSV and GSV.

BOOK LAUNCH. THE STORY OF MELBOURNE'S LANES: ESSENTIAL BUT UNPLANNED.

Date: Thursday 3 October
Time: 5:30pm – 7pm
Cost: FREE
Event type: in person only
Launched by: Professor Robert Adams AM, multi award-winning architect and urban designer

Thirty years ago, then RHSV President Historian Weston Bate, launched a book, *Essential but Unplanned: The Story of Melbourne's Lanes* which quickly became a classic. To honour the centenary of Weston's birth, the RHSV and State Library of Victoria is re-publishing this book but with an additional and new second half to bring the story to 2024. Andy May has written two extra chapters, there are updated indexes to lanes and their names by Nicole Davis, 140 gorgeous colour photographs in the new half and a bold contemporary design by Marianna Berek-Lewis. It is a must-have book for those who love Melbourne's history. This enormous project has been overseen, appropriately by our current President, Richard Broome, with assistance from co-editors Andy May, Nicole Davis and Helen Stitt.



CATALOGUING CLINICS

Date: Thursday 22 August
Thursday 26 September
Time: 11am – 12noon
Cost: FREE
Event type: Zoom only



Join Jillian Hiscock, our Collections Manager, each month presents this informative and easy-going Zoom forum on all aspects of cataloguing collections for historical societies.

Jillian has a different topic each month and is happy to be guided by those who attend as to what they would like covered in upcoming clinics. Bring your questions, no matter the topic: this is an interactive space where questions are encouraged. The RHSV does not endorse any particular cataloguing software – we believe it is horses for courses – and Jillian will talk about issues that impact on cataloguing whether you are using cataloguing cards or software.

GUIDED WALKING TOURS OF HISTORIC FLAGSTAFF GARDENS



Date: Every Monday (excluding public holidays) and at other times by arrangement
Time: 11am – 12:15pm
Cost: \$10
Event type: in person only
Guide: Chris Manchee
Bookings: essential on +3 9326 9288 | office@historyvictoria.org.au

Join expert tour guide, Chris Manchee, on a guided history walking tour through the beautiful Flagstaff Gardens: the historic heart of the city. Visitors will climb Flagstaff Hill to consider its place in Melbourne's topography and pre-European history as well as its early role as a burial ground, flagstaff signalling station and magnetic and meteorological observatory. An absolute 'must do' walk for understanding the history and character of Melbourne.

Around the societies

Prepared by volunteer Glenda Beckley on behalf of the Historical Societies Support Committee.

We welcome societies to submit an article or event details of around 50 words or email your newsletter to us and we will write up around 50 words for you around twice per year. If your Society has a logo you would like attached to your information, please send along a high-resolution image. For the October 2024 issue, please send details to office@historyvictoria.org.au by 24 August 2024.

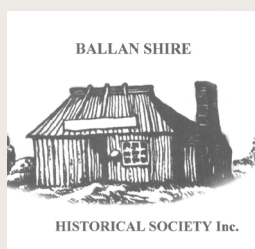
ALTONA LAVERTON: Once the home of the Langhorne family, Altona Homestead is now the home of our Society. We warmly welcome visitors and invite you to explore beautiful Altona and savour our famous Devonshire Tea. On display are objects, paintings and collections reflecting everyday life from 1840 through to the mid 1900s. The bluestone building is in Logan Reserve, Queen Street, Altona. Find out more at <https://alhs.com.au/>



ALTONA HOMESTEAD

BALLAN SHIRE: The Society's collection is housed in the Ballan Court House. Built in 1873 and closed in 1983, the Court House was re-opened in 1990 as a local history record and resource centre. The collection consists of books, documents and photographs relevant to the Ballan Shire: 1838 to the present day. 2024 is a year of celebrations: Ballan Shire Historical Society 40 years; Ballan Golf Club 100 years; Ballan Red Cross 110 years; Ballan State School 150 years; Ballan Shire 160 years. Follow us on Facebook:

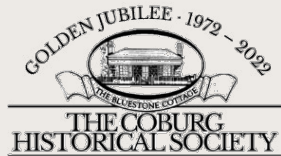
<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100078766212295>



CAMPERDOWN: New resource on our website - We are in the process of developing a series of First Nations information pages on our website. It is a resource which we are looking to add to over time and will link to our growing Victorian Collections Catalogue. Look in the menu for First Nations. There are twelve pages featuring different aspects of this important local history: <https://camperdownhistory.org.au/first-nations/>

COBURG: Our meetings and talks are held at the Coburg Library meeting room at 8pm. Upcoming talks include: 18 September, Professor Bain Attwood on William Cooper and his petition; 16 October, Dr Carolyn Rasmussen on the history of the provision of Melbourne's water and sewerage, with reference to Coburg and the Merri Creek; 20 November, Dr Ross McMullin on life so full of promise: more stories about outstanding Australians killed during the First World War.

coburghistoricalsociety.wordpress.com



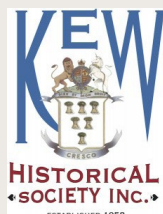
HAWTHORN: In our Jubilee Year we thought we would throw a party and thank our friends at the historic Hawthorn Bowling Club in Denham Street for allowing us to celebrate there. Mark 12 September in your diaries. Hawthorn Bowling Club, Denham Street, 6-8pm.

hawthornhistoricalsociety.com.au



KEW: Future Events: 14 August, David Jellie on The Country Roads Board; 11 September, the Mayor of Boroondara for our AGM; Public meetings are held in the Phyllis Hore room at the Kew Library. 9 October, Dickenson Lecture (this is a ticketed event): Andrew Thorn on Restoration of the Springthorpe Memorial at Just Theatre, Kew Court House, 7.30 for 8pm.

kewhistoricalsociety.org.au



KILMORE: September will see KHS hold its annual AGM. We will be meeting as usual at 7.30 at the Old Post Office on Tuesday 3 September. Instead of a guest speaker we will have a special event; KHS is turning 60! The Society first met in 1964 at the Kilmore Town Hall. Among our collection of historical documents is the treasured handwritten Minutes from that first meeting. Let's make a proper party of it! KHS will provide a cake. Please bring a plate to share with others. We would be delighted to hear from those who were members in the early days and would like to share their recollections. Brian Clancy is preparing a slide show of images of Kilmore in the early 1960s, as a reminder of the world into which our Historical Society was born.

kilmorehistory.wordpress.com

MARYBOROUGH MIDLANDS: Worsley Cottage is home to our society. It was built in 1894 by Arthur Worsley for his bride Agnes. The two front rooms were completed in 1894 and a further two rooms were added by 1908. It is beautifully furnished with many donated treasures. The resource centre is located at the rear of the property and contains separate research and museum display areas. Our collection includes a wide range of artifacts, photographs, and manuscripts which tell the story of the people who have lived and worked here for generations. From the earliest settlers to the present day, we offer a unique perspective on the history of Maryborough and the surrounding region.

mmhs.net.au

NARRE WARREN FAMILY HISTORY: We wish to advise members and friends that following the decommissioning of the administration building at the Casey Complex we have relocated to our new home at 110 High Street, Berwick. The Lorraine Taylor Research Room reopened on 23 July. The 2024 AGM will be on 7 August at 2pm with a talk by Patrick Ferry, State Manager of Victoria at the National Archives of Australia: 'Doctor, Teacher, Gardener, Spy. Stories from ASIO files'. <https://www.facebook.com/NarreWarrenDistrictFamilyHistoryGroup/>

STAWELL: We continue to receive many donations on a weekly basis of articles relating to the history of Stawell and District. The donations received in recent times have included: photos and framed documents from the old Stawell Butter Factory in Curtis Street; Ceramic mug and wine glasses with gold print 'Stawell Orchid Society'; A large taxidermy display cabinet of birds from the Ironbarks and Stawell surrounds from the late 1800s; The original horse drawn meat cart from Newtons Butcher shop when it was located in Patrick Street. A cover is to be built for this meat cart when it is placed in the grounds of the museum. Open days Wednesdays and Thursdays 10am-4 pm, other days by appointment.

SURREY HILLS: Meetings of the Society are held on the 3rd Tuesday of the month, February to November, at 8pm. Venue: The Heritage Centre, 190A Canterbury Road, Canterbury. Supper follows the presentation. Visitors welcome, \$5.00 donation. In November 2022, the local history collection was formally handed over to the Society by the Board of Management of the Surrey Hills Neighbourhood Centre and this has now been moved to the new Heritage Centre in the Canterbury Gardens. Volunteers are continuing to work on unpacking and arranging the collection. We welcome visitors on Mondays, 10am-3pm or by appointment.

surreyhillshistoricalsociety.org.au



WARRAGUL: Meetings are held in the old shire hall, 72 Queen Street, on the last Monday of each month at 7.30pm. The Museum is open Thursdays 10am-2pm and on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month from 2-4pm. Closed during December and January. Our advertising brochures have now been accepted to be on show at West Gippsland Arts Centre, Homi café, Violet & Ivy, the Coffee Pod, the Bean-scene coffee shop, the Mercure

Hotel and the Library. We have been invited to partake in the Snow Fest on the three weekends: 26 July, 2 August and 9 August. These weekend events will support the West Gippsland Hospital. We have agreed to be open for some time on each of those weekends and hope to have members helping.

WEDDERBURN HISTORICAL RECORDS

MUSEUM: We have had a very successful year to date and our digital records have continued to grow and now comprise a record 110,000 items which includes previous editions of the *Wedderburn and Inglewood Express*. We had a very successful launch of the book titled *War Veterans from Wedderburn and District, Saluting their service* by the Vice President, Geoff Arnott. We have contacted The Wedderburn and Korong Vale RSL to see if we are able to work together on two projects as an extension of Geoff's research and writing: A plaque for remembering the contribution of the horses in WWI, a large number provided by Wedderburn and District farmers; and a possible statue of Colin Cameron, a World War II hero who needs recognition for his bravery in operation Rimau.

wedderburnhistorical.com.au

WHITTLESEA: On 18 August, our general meeting will be held at Ziebell's Farmhouse, with our member speaker being Rob Wuchatsch, a former President of WHS. In September the society is planning a 'behind the scenes' trip to the State Library of Victoria, thanks to our WHS member Daniel Giddens. All details of these events will be available on the website at whittleseahistoricalsociety.org.au



■ Ian McRobinson, Marcie Matthews and Ron Firman with the unveiled plaques

Talbot honours volunteers

The last Sunday in May saw a special event at the Talbot Arts and Historical Museum, where we recognised and honoured the contribution of Robin McRobinson and Ron Firman in leadership and practical involvement with the Museum. Both foundation Committee members in 1983, Robin held the role of President from 2000 until his death in 2023 while Ron held the role of Treasurer from 1983 until 2012 and is still an active Committee member.

Members of the extended families, together with past and present Museum members, gathered for the unveiling of two plaques: one for the Robin McRobinson Volunteer Room and the other for the Ron Firman Radio Studio in the Communications Museum.

Ian McRobinson, Robin's brother, spoke about Robin's enthusiasm for the Museum and Ron shared memories of growing up in the area and the years of Museum activities.

Afternoon tea was then provided for all. It was a lovely opportunity to show our thanks for more than 40 years of dedication from two very special volunteers.

Windows on history:

James Fry: a singular benefactor, St Peters, Ballarat

In June 1877 Ballarat businessman, James Fry, donated £500 to St Peter's Anglican Church in Sturt Street for the construction of a new bluestone chancel with stained glass windows by Ferguson and Urie of North Melbourne.

'...Stained glass is now being prepared in Melbourne to fill the window. There will be a small window on each side of the chancel... Mr. James Fry has contributed the handsome donation of £500. It is expected that all the new works will be finished, and the organ erected, in a little over a month's time from the present.' Ballarat Star, 20 June 1877.

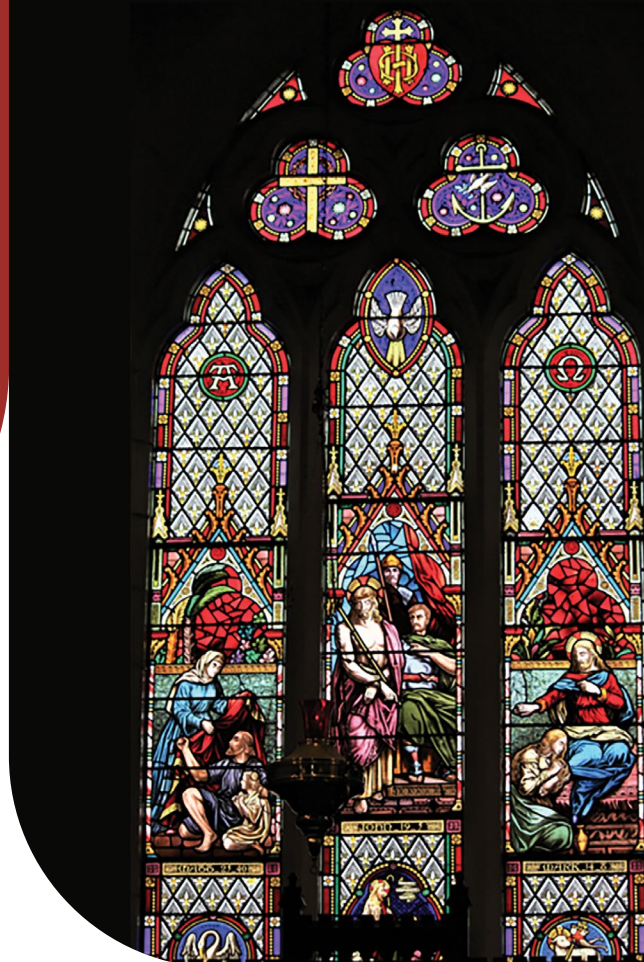
In the same month James departed for London aboard the ship *Northumberland* where he married his third wife, Louisa Ann Coles. The couple returned to Australia the following year.

'The stained-glass window for the chancel of St. Peter's Church has arrived in Ballaarat, and was placed in position. It is a very good specimen of Messrs. Ferguson and Urie's art, and it is a matter of congratulation that such excellent workmanship can be produced in the colony...' Church of England Messenger, 9 August 1877.

The three light chancel window depicts the emblems of faith, hope and charity in the upper tracery, whilst the main three lights below contain illustrations from Matthew 25:40 (charity in Christ's name), John 19:5 (Christ wears the crown of thorns), and Mark 14:8 (the woman anointing Christ). The base of the windows depicts the Pelican's sacrifice for her chicks, *The Good Shepherd*, and the *Agnes Dei* or Lamb of God.

The two smaller single light windows on either side of the chancel mentioned in the *Ballarat Star* report are hidden from the congregation. The window on the left of the chancel is no longer installed and its fate is unknown, although likely a similar format to the extant window. The body of the lancet is diamond quarries, painted with a fleur-de-lis motif, with the text set in a central cartouche and the whole surrounded with a typical Ferguson & Urie red, blue and gold rosette border. It holds a ribbon text from Revelations 14:13, 'Write Blessed are the Dead Which die in the Lord', which provides a clue to the character of those commemorated in the almost unreadable inscription:

**'THIS CHANCEL WAS ERECTED BY
JAMES FRY
TO THE GLORY OF GOD
AND IN AFFECTIONATE REMEMBRANCE OF
MARY FRY, DIED MAY 14th 1863 &
WILLIAMINA FRY DIED APRIL 13th 1876'**



James Fry (1821-1903) was a native of Somersetshire, England. He is credited as the pioneer of grain growing and milling operations in western Victoria. After first growing wheat on a large scale at Mount Blowhard, he began milling using primitive equipment in the 1850s. He invested and expanded his mills all over the Western District, where there was ample grain production and a ready market among the miners for his prize winning 'Five Stars Flour', which became a household staple throughout Victoria.

In July 1869 a tragic accident occurred at his Wendouree mill. A thirty-five foot long 'Cornish Flue' steam boiler erupted. The sound of the explosion was heard over three miles away and a huge plume of steam and debris littered the air for miles. James' twenty-eight-year-old nephew, Albert Hill, was superintendent of the mill at the time and was standing beside the boiler when it exploded. His death was instant. His naked and disembowelled body was found more than one hundred yards away on the other side of Wendouree Parade in the swamp which is now Lake Wendouree. His body was recovered and taken to Fry's residence near the mill and James' wife Williamina was so traumatised that she became seriously ill.

The following day an inquest on Albert's remains was held at the Wendouree Parade Hotel where, coincidentally, some portions of brick from the Mill explosion had landed in the bar. Albert was interred in the family grave at Miners Rest with James' first wife Mary and their infant daughter Williamina. Their monument has the same scriptural text as the memorial window at St Peter's Church:

'Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord: even you saith the Spirit that they may rest from their labours.' Rev. XIV:13

Given the various memorials erected by James Fry to his family, it seems likely that the now lost chancel window may have been a memorial to his unfortunate nephew, Albert Hill.



The stained glass windows James Fry donated to St Peter's in 1877 reveal a fascinating historical insight to his business, family, philanthropy and connection to St Peter's Church.



In November 1901 James' third wife Louisa died at Sutton Park aged 75. Louisa was interred at the Mount Prospect cemetery north of Ballarat. James had now outlived three wives. In 1903 James died at the age of 82 and was buried alongside Louisa. His Sutton Park Estate at Newlyn was left to his son, James Rood Fry, but by 1918 it was under control of the government for the purposes of soldier settlement schemes.

On a lonely intersection amongst the farmlands at Newlyn can be found the original iron gates that once framed the entrance to James Fry's Sutton Park Estate and a plaque on a nearby monumental cairn indicates how the estate was divided for soldier settlement purposes. The stained glass windows James Fry donated to St Peter's in 1877 reveal a fascinating historical insight to his business, family, philanthropy and connection to St Peter's Church.

Extended detail about the Ferguson and Urie firm can be found at <http://fergusonandurie.wordpress.com>

Ray J Brown



Diana Phoenix (1925-2024)

When I began as an RHSV volunteer in 2011, I was asked to help Diana Phoenix with the RHSV archives. By then, Diana had completed a first sweep of the collection, gathering all the material that was to become the archives into one place: at one end of the mezzanine level of the Drill Hall. It had been a monumental effort and by then she had been at it for several years, listing all the material she had identified as archive-worthy and moving it up the spiral staircase where she put hundreds, if not thousands, of items in order, placing them in a series of metal cabinets, listing it all as she went, in pencil, on A4 writing pads. When I arrived on the scene, my task was to type up her meticulous handwritten notes.

Documents kept materialising and each week Diana brought me some new document or other until she was confident that the bulk of the material had been found. It was then that she decided to 'retire' as an RHSV volunteer. I knew that

I would miss our weekly chats, often about her years as a 'Land Girl' during World War II, but by then she was in her mid-eighties and it was time to 'retire', or so I thought.

It soon became apparent that Diana still had the history bug, but she wanted to concentrate now on her local community's history. A Middle Park local, she was a founding member of the Middle Park and Albert Park History Group in 2011. There, as at RHSV, she made an invaluable contribution, and there, as at RHSV, her enthusiasm did not go unnoticed. Her knowledge, her capacity to bring people together, her research and writing skills were all apparent in her contributions to both groups, but particularly at Middle Park.

An RHSV member from the mid-1990s, Diana began volunteering in 1997. Her initial task had been to help prepare the library catalogue for conversion to electronic format, but she later moved on to indexing and cataloguing many thousands of items in our images collection. From about 2009, she took charge of the Society's archives. For these contributions she was presented with an Award of Merit in 2010.

Diana died on 7 April 2024 aged 98. A mother of four, a grandmother and great grandmother, she was also a friend and colleague to many. She was great company

as a volunteer, efficient, unflappable and welcoming. I feel privileged that it was Diana who was my first volunteer 'buddy' and every time I use the Archives, I thank her for the work she undertook so readily.

Cheryl Griffin

King's Birthday Honours 2024

The RHSV heartily congratulates the following society members who received the Medal of the Order of Australia in the King's Birthday Honours, announced on 10 June 2024.

Elisabeth Jackson OAM. Fellow and former vice-president of the RHSV. 'For service to history preservation organisations, and to the community.'

Dr Rosalie Triolo OAM. Fellow and former vice-president of the RHSV. 'For service to community and school history, and to tertiary education.'

Helen Botham OAM. Outstanding contributor to La Trobe's Cottage. 'For service to childhood literacy, and to historical preservation.'



Ukrainian Museum of Australia

The Ukrainian Museum of Australia had its beginnings 70 years ago at the Ukrainian Catholic Parish Centre at the Cathedral of Saints Peter and Paul in Melbourne Victoria. Bishop Ivan Prashko, a native of the town of Zbarazh in the Ternopil Oblast, Ukraine, a refugee of World War II (WWII) landed in Australia 1949 and founded the Ukrainian Catholic Church in Australia. He was the first Ukrainian Greek-Catholic bishop in Australia, New Zealand and Oceania and was the founder who gave his blessing for the inauguration of a Ukrainian Museum in Melbourne at the Cathedral premises.

The Ukrainian Arts Museum was founded by the late Father Zenon Chorkawj OAM who started collecting Ukrainian artifacts as he visited Ukrainian migrant communities in Europe, Canada and America. With the support of Bishop Ivan Prashko, Father Zenon commenced Museum activities at the Cathedral Hall premises in North Melbourne and the official opening of the Ukrainian Arts Museum took place on the 3 August 1979 with an exhibition of Ukrainian folk artifacts and national costumes.

The Ukrainian Museum of Australia aims to popularise the ancient, deep and



■ **Top, left to right:** Ukrainian decorated eggs “pysanky”, ‘Hutsul dancers’ – artist Edvard Kozak, ‘Ukrainians’, wooden sculpture by Volodymyr Lupychuk

Left: The Ukrainian Arts Museum founder, the late Father Zenon Chorkawyj OAM, a WWII refugee from Ukraine, who, after finishing his theological studies in Rome in 1968, settled in Melbourne Australia ministering in the Ukrainian Catholic Church.

beautiful culture and national heritage of Ukraine in Australia and the world. Over the following decades Fr. Zenon, together with key assistants Mr. Oreon Venhrynowych, Mr. Yurij Semkiv and Mr. Michael Hanytsky, worked on collating items for the Museum collections, arranging exhibitions and setting up the first Museum card index catalogue.

Fr Zenon organised volunteer groups of artisans and craftspeople who were specialists in various fields of folk art and Ukrainian crafts, to undertake traditional craft works and create artifacts for museum exhibitions. These craft specialists worked as volunteers and produced traditional items of embroidery, pysanky writers (egg decorating with traditional motifs) and wood carvings. One famous master wood carver, Yevhen Stahiv, completed major wood carvings for the Cathedral Iconostas in Melbourne and donated many masterpieces of wood carvings with incrustations to the Museum. Many items of traditional embroidery namely blouses, shirts, cloths and runners were completed by the parish sisterhood using traditional folk embroidery motifs from various regions of Ukraine. Many valued paintings were donated to the Museum collection by renowned Ukrainian artists Volodymyr Savchak, Michael Kmit and Yaryna Lachowycz.

During the period of 1970s up until 1991, when Ukraine declared its independence after the breakup of the Soviet Union, the collection of Ukrainian arts and crafts and artifacts grew through donations by families, artists, specialist craftspeople and embroiderers from Australia, Europe, Canada, USA, New Zealand and Ukraine.

In 1988 in commemoration of 1000 years of Christianity in Ukraine Fr Zenon Chorkawyj together with Ms Natalia

Moravska curated an exhibition of Ukrainian religious and cultural artifacts at the National Gallery of Victoria.

With the support from Bishop Peter Stasiuk the Museum obtained additional operational space and storage facilities at the Ukrainian Cathedral premises in 2011 and has continued to expand its activities and collection base.

In 2019 Ms Maru Jarockyj RIBA AIA took over the Directorship of the Museum and has co-ordinated a working group of volunteers who have initiated new museum activities, exhibitions and educational programs. That year the Museum was renamed ‘The Ukrainian Museum of Australia’ and was registered as an entity with ASIC in 2020.

The Museum houses a library, film and photographic archives, stamp and coin collections, medals and historical documents relating to Ukrainian community life in Australia. The Museum’s permanent collection of over 10,000 donated items of religious historical artifacts consisting of vestments mitres, chalices, bibles, icons, Ukrainian embroidery, kelims, national costumes, ceramics, wooden carvings, paintings, pysanky, sculptures and musical instruments has been assembled over the past 40 years. The Museum has works of outstanding artists from Ukraine and known throughout the world, such as George Kruk, Edward Kozak, Ivan Marchuk and famous Ukrainian artists Volodymyr Lupychuk, Andriy Sukhorskyi and Vasyly Sidak.

Exhibitions curated by the Ukrainian Museum of Australia are housed in the parish hall named Patriarch Joseph Slipyj Hall in honour of this Ukrainian Patriarch who was exiled to Siberia for 17 years for being head of the catacomb Ukrainian

Catholic Church and who, after his release from the Siberian gulags, visited Melbourne in 1972.

During the Museum’s 44-year history over 70 major exhibitions have been held around Australia, in Melbourne, Sydney, Geelong, Canberra Adelaide and Perth attracting thousands of local and international visitors, scholars, politicians and dignitaries. It continues to enjoy great success as a major cultural institution for the Ukrainian diaspora in Australia.

Today, the museum operates with a group of volunteers who are engaged in collection expansion, exhibition planning, upgrade and maintenance. Working ties have been established with museums in Ukraine supporting the expert assessment of exhibits, such as ‘Castles of Ternopil region’. Zoom conferences and online meetings are held with leading historians, cultural experts and artists of Ukraine. Co-operation and support from the Ukrainian Museum of Australia for museum institutions in Ukraine are critical during these times of war and mass destruction by Russian aggression.

UNESCO has published a list of 343 cultural sites verified to have suffered damage since Russia invaded Ukraine on 24 February 2022. Preservation of Ukrainian artifacts in Australia now takes on new urgency and significance.

Being thousands of kilometers from Ukraine, we all feel a spiritual closeness and understand the integrity and unity of Ukrainians all over the world through the preservation of traditions and culture in such centers as ethnic museums of the diaspora, one of which is the Ukrainian Museum of Australia.

Maru Jarockyj
Director of the Ukrainian
Museum of Australia





REGISTER OF APPLICATIONS

No. of Case.	APPLICANTS.				Time, Date and Place of Accident.	Precise nature of exertions used, and result.
	Name.	Address.	Age.	Occupation		
1	Boyle	Michael Reddell	44	Farm Servant	3.30 Pm. 19 th Nov/14 Mellison St. Kyneton.	Hastily descending by a rope (unsaid) into a well 20 feet deep, and after a second attempt saving the child —

Library collection: ordinary people do the extraordinary: Humane Society of Australasia resources

The facts are simply told in the language of the day:

The Goulburn Valley train which left Seymour at 9.20am on 4th December 1908 had almost reached the level crossing, about two miles south of Wahring railway station, when the engine driver and fire man noticed a small object on the rails ahead, but could not discern what it was. The warning note of the engine's whistle was sounded and heard by the gatekeeper, Mrs Lavinia Kennedy, wife of Thomas Kennedy, line repairer, who at the time was tending her baby. Mrs Kennedy ran to the door, looked out at the approaching train, but as no reason for the driver's warning could be seen, owing to a wooden fence which shut out from view the line of rails, she returned to her baby. The driver and fireman now recognised the small object to be a child, and the shrill whistle of the engine, nearer at hand, again startled Mrs Kennedy, dropping her baby on the floor she rushed to the fence, and saw a little girl, Eileen Moira Mulcahy, aged 8 years, on the line at the cattle pit by the crossing. The train was travelling at the rate of 25 miles an hour, and was within a few yards of the child. Without a moment's hesitation Mrs Kennedy dashed forward, and heedless of the risk to herself, sprang in front of the approaching train. She jumped on to the cattle pit; threw herself across one of the logs, and seizing the child dropped on to the bars of the pit. At that moment the train dashed over them, so close that both driver and fireman thought they were under the wheels. Mrs Kennedy's position was most hazardous, for she was lying partly in the cattle pit, and partly across the log, wedged therein by the barbed wire protecting the pit. Her head was within nine inches of the rail, and the wheels were sweeping her hair as the train passed over her. It was a truly brave deed, for an instant's hesitation or a slip meant certain death to both.

At a public meeting held at Nagambie on 23 July 1909, it was

decided to inaugurate The Lavinia Kennedy Heroism Fund in recognition of her heroic achievement.

This story is one of those recorded by the Humane Society of Australasia in their records. The RHSV received some their archives last year, and discovered an extraordinary list of 'ordinary people doing the extraordinary'.

The society was first envisaged by Mr John Wilks, when he wrote to the *Argus* about the loss of life and selfless heroism displayed at the wreck of the Pilot Schooner *Rip*, and published in 24 July 1873. The society was established the next year with the involvement George Coppin MLC.

The first person registered in 1874 was 14-year-old Michael Boyle who went down a well in Kyneton and successfully saved a child.

In 1903, Adeline Mary Rees, aged 12, entered the water at Port Melbourne near the baths fully clothed after hearing her name calling for help. She swam out and rescued eight-year-old Frank Chaffey, seven-year-old William Hatton and Thomas Rees aged six.

In 1920, Herbert James Coates, 24, a bootmaker, stopped a bolting horse attached to a buggy with a woman and child on board. The horse was galloping at full speed, Herbert ran out and caught it by the head, he was knocked down and dragged along but still maintained his hold and managed to finally stop the horse. Three electric trams were coming within a few yards. Mrs Reddish and her child were saved.

The material is an extraordinary set of information about not just the heroism, but also provides a view of the types of accidents, the age group of the people involved and locations. A good resource set for research.



Jane Mayo Carolan OAM (1949–2023)

Belatedly, but with real sadness, *History News* notes the death in December last year of Jane Carolan née Conroy, professional historian and archivist, enthusiastic volunteer in the local history movement and an active member of the RHSV Council from 2010 to 2018.

Jane's publications, always to the highest standards of research and presentation, included: her three-volume history *For the green and the gold and the mitre: a centenary history of Trinity Grammar School, Kew*; *No run-of-the-mill: a biography of Henry Beaufort Somerset*; *Head, heart & soul: the making of St Leonard's College*; her joint authorship with Loreto Mandeville Hall, *A Row of Goodly Pearls: One Hundred and Twenty-five Years of Loreto in Melbourne*; and her sumptuous two-volume history *Catholic Insurance Serving church: a history of Catholic Church Insurances Limited*. Working with the Brighton Cemeterians and the Brighton Historical Society, she compiled the 2013 publication

Visionary Lives: Five Hundred Biographies from the Brighton General Cemetery. Her Mandeville Hall book earned her an ASA Mander-Jones publication award.

Meanwhile she worked as archivist with several schools, most notably Trinity Grammar where she marshalled a keen group of volunteers; but also Brighton Grammar School, Mandeville Hall and Christ Church Grammar, South Yarra. She was a leading light of the Victorian Schools Special Interest Group of the Australian Society of Archivists.

Jane's qualities as an historian were shown early as the winner of a Matriculation exhibition in history in her final year at Genazanno Convent, Kew. After securing her BA honours degree in history at the University of Melbourne, she gained library qualifications working at the State Library Victoria. As research assistant to Professor Weston Bate, she gained her MA degree with her biography of the Rev Dr Francis Brown, headmaster of

Geelong Grammar School 1911–29. This thesis became an essential component of Weston's book, *Light Blue Down Under*.

For several years from the later 1970s, when her husband Kevin's work took the family to Tasmania, Jane Carolan's professional life as a historian and archivist was largely put on hold because of responsibilities in raising their young family. Impressively, the main body of her historical publication did not begin until her Trinity trilogy in 2003 when she adopted the authorial name of Jane Mayo Carolan. Her OAM award was bestowed in 2016 for services to the community as historian, archivist and author.

Indefatigable, generous with her time, warm hearted, even throughout her long final illness, Jane Carolan maintained many interests and is sadly missed by her family, colleagues and friends.

Andrew Lemon



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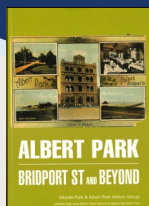


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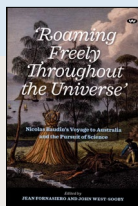
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Albert Park: Bridport St and Beyond

Middle Park and Albert Park History Group
PB 214pp \$29

Embark upon on a walking tour, book in hand to learn more about the many significant landmarks of Albert Park. Discover stories, like The Biltmore, which was established in 1888 to offset men drinking alcohol, however, 'the idea of men relaxing and having non-alcoholic drinks after work in a coffee palace never really captured local imaginations'. Readers are invited to walk past buildings to discover their history and heritage, including churches, hotels, theatres, and schools.



Roaming Freely throughout the Universe: Nicolas Baudin's Voyage to Australia and the Pursuit of Science

Jean Fornastero and John West-Sooby, eds
PB 341pp \$39.95

During the early 1800s Age of Exploration, Nicolas Baudin undertook a pivotal voyage of discovery to Australia, which included both specialist field collectors and aspiring savants. This anthology of essays explores fresh perspectives. What emerges is a deeper appreciation of the expedition's contribution to the pursuit of science, and of those who pursued it. Contributors include Gabrielle Baglione, Andrew Black, Jean Fornasiero, John Gascoigne, Michel Jangoux, Justin Jansen, Margaret Sankey, Nicole Starbuck and John West-Sooby.



A Formidable man: the Life of William Springthorpe

Allan Mawdsley
PB 198pp \$23

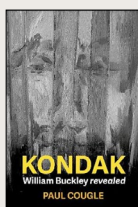
William Springthorpe was a prominent physician, lecturer and writer in late 19th century's marvellous Melbourne. Springthorpe took major advocacy roles in physiotherapy, dentistry, nursing, public health, child welfare, epilepsy and mental health during his career. He bitterly criticised of the treatment of World War I 'shell shock' victims. *A Formidable Man* is an expansive detailing into the contributions and controversies of a combative personality; a work of true thought and quality.



Vernacular Visions: a Folklife History of Australia: Art, Diversity, Storytelling

Noris Ioannou
HC 275pp \$75.95

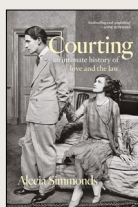
Vernacular Visions highlights the meaning of folk art, embracing it as a tool for the re-telling of everyday life. Based on extensive research, Dr Ioannou explores the origins and character of Australia's creativity and its springboard of diverse visual traditions. From the ancient and contemporary creativity practices of Australia's First Nations people, to those who emerged from our ongoing migrant experiences the author highlights the changing themes which determine the diverse character of Australian folk creativity.



Kondak: William Buckley Revealed

Paul Cogle
PB 331pp \$49.95

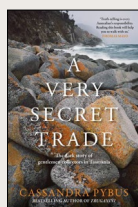
In 1803 the convict William Buckley, a former British soldier, abandoned the life he knew and, without contact with Europeans, lived for many years among the First Nations peoples of what was eventually to become the colony of Victoria. It is wondered if he thought of himself as Kondak, a Wathaurong elder: an astonishing claim by a European settler. This book delves deeper into those years, 1803-1835, and the way Buckley's experiences changed his view of himself.



Courting: an Intimate History of Love and the Law

Alecia Simmonds
PB 448pp \$45

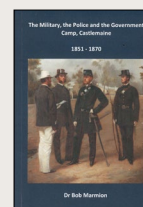
Courting is a transcontinental journey into the most intimate corners of the past. Alecia Simmonds brings to life stories of tantalising insight into the romantic landscape of the past: where couples met, how they courted, and what happened when flirtations turned sour. Over the long arc of the 19th and 20th centuries, pre-industrial romantic customs gave way to middle class respectability and women used the courts to assert their rights.



A Very Secret Trade: the Dark Story of Gentlemen Collectors in Tasmania

Cassandra Pybus
PB 318pp \$34.99

In the 19th century, collectors in Europe were fascinated by the antipodean colony of Tasmania. They cultivated contacts in the colony who could supply them with exotic specimens, including skeletons of the thylacine and the platypus. The belief that the original people of the colony were an utterly unique race and facing possible extinction had the European scientific community scrambling for human exhibits. Come along as Pybus uncovers one of the darkest secrets in Australia's history.



The Military, the Police and the Government Camp, Castlemaine 1851-1870

Dr Bob Marmion
PB 103pp \$30

Examining the turbulent early years of the police and military at Government Camp, Bob Marmion chronicles the evolving public perception of law enforcement, from the departure of the Imperial redcoats in 1858 to the establishment of the local Volunteer Force in Castlemaine, comprising citizen soldiers. Marmion's work provides a detailed account of this transformative period, offering insights into the community's relationship with authority during a pivotal era in Castlemaine's history.

Books received

John Schauble

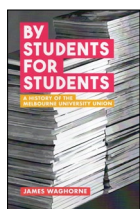
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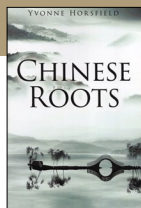
Roy Boy. Christopher Bennett, Roy Boy Publications, Olinda, 2023, pp.1-350, ISBN 9780645712902.

This is the intriguing memoir of Christopher Bennett, born Goulopoulos, son of a fish and chip shop owner of Brunswick Street, Fitzroy. Growing up in the then tough, working-class inner suburb of the 1960s, he would spend time in detention as a ward of the state after some relatively minor infractions before returning to the streets of Fitzroy. This is another story of the Greek-Macedonian diaspora, of a second-generation migrant upbringing, its denial and eventual reconciliation. Those who grew up in Australia around this time with a 'funny name' will recognise some of the pain. But there is also much joy and many delightful tales of being a 'Roy boy' and a detailed picture of life in Fitzroy back in the day.



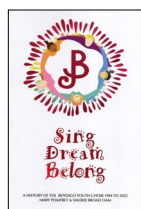
By Students, For Students. James Waghorne, Australian Scholarly Publishing, North Melbourne, 2022, pp. xi-254, ISBN 9780959323160.

For generations of students at the University of Melbourne, the student union was at the centre of day-to-day life. Foremost a place to gather, to eat and socialise, student spaces in which to participate in clubs and societies, to listen to live music, participate in student politics and publications. The union became a bolt hole for many. How many hours have been "wasted" in conversation or listening to music in the Rowden White library? There has been a student union at Melbourne since 1884 and it has borne all manner of fruit, most notably in music and theatre, especially comedy, and through its contribution to the culture of the organisation and the wider community. This history coincides with the union's move to a new location on campus.



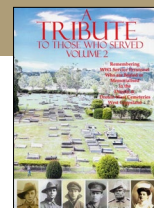
Chinese Roots. Yvonne Horsefield, Shawline Publishing Group, Victoria, 2023, pp. xi-189, ISBN 9781922851758.

Liu Zong Wei was fascinated by in his father's tales of the New Gold Mountain, the Victorian goldfields of the 1860s. His father made his fortune and returned to China. In the early 1880s, his son also set out but would stay and eventually mine for souls as a Presbyterian minister. So began the story of a family and its generational attachment to the Victorian community. Liu Zong Wei became John Tong Way, who, despite some four decades of residence and a dedicated career in the church, would be denied Australian citizenship, along with his wife Mary, due to the White Australia policy. This is a telling story of a Chinese-Australian family and its integration into Australian society across more than 100 years of racism, rejection and finally acceptance.



Sing Dream Belong. Mary Pomfret and Valerie Broad, Bendigo Youth Choir, Bendigo, 2023, pp. v-218, ISBN 9780645732306.

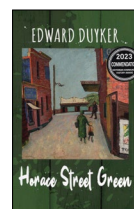
The story of the Bendigo Youth Choir, founded 40 years ago by Valerie Broad, is a story of successful community engagement, not just for those involved but for an entire local community. Some 800 young choristers have passed through its ranks, some going on to professional careers in music. The choir itself performed not just in metropolitan centres but overseas, including in Samoa where they arrived to find themselves at a festival actually intended for indigenous performers! Perhaps most importantly it has provided young people from country Victoria an opportunity to learn and work together, to grow in confidence and skill to enjoy music and see a world beyond. This history is driven by the recollections and anecdotes, presented sequentially, of many of those involved.



A Tribute to Those Who Served, Vol.2. West Gippsland Genealogical Society, Warragul, 2022, pp.1-90, ISBN 9780957968943.

A Tribute to Those Who Served, Vol.3. West Gippsland Genealogical Society, Warragul, 2022, pp.1-88, ISBN 9780957968974.

These two volumes are part of a series dedicated to the memory of WWI veterans interred in district cemeteries. Australian service personnel who died overseas were commonly buried in war cemeteries proximate to where they died until 1966, after which time remains have been repatriated where possible. These books (others were published in 2018 and 2023, and a fifth is on the way) record the stories of those who made it home and a little of their subsequent lives. They will be of obvious interest and use to family and local historians with connections to West Gippsland.



Horace Street Green. Edward Duyker, privately published, Sydney, 2023, pp.1-230, ISBN 9780648420903.

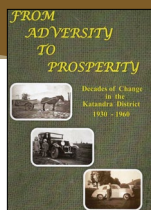
Historians often make good memoirists simply because looking back is what they do for a living. Edward Duyker's reflection upon a sometimes vulnerable past has been deservedly commended in the 2023 Victorian Community History Awards. The book takes its title from the colour produced when his father mixed remnant pots of paint so as not to waste it, for in this immigrant post-war home nothing would be wasted. Horace Street, Malvern would be the family pivot for the next 50 years. Born to a Dutch father and Mauritian mother, Edward and his seven siblings grew up there in the 1960s. This is a rich, surprising portrait of what it was like to be part of a migrant working-class Catholic family in middle Melbourne.

Books received

John Schauble

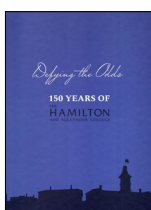
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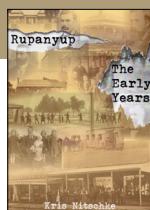
From Adversity to Prosperity. Katandra and District History Group, Katandra West, 2023, pp. 1-223, ISBN 9780980856033.

Katandra and surrounds, north-east of Shepparton, were developed during the 1920s through the Soldier and Closer Settlement schemes. The larger settlement of Katandra West became the hub of a district centred on irrigated farmland. An active local history group has captured the earliest years of the community here in a previous publication, *Hope and Hardship*. This successor volume traces the three decades from 1930 to 1960, spanning the depression, the war years and those after. Here, in minute detail, are details of the developments of infrastructure that support a Victorian rural community: schools, churches, sporting and service clubs, the RSL, fire brigade and so on.



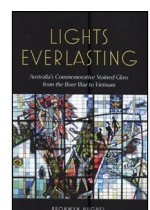
Defying the Odds: 150 Years of the Hamilton and Alexandra College. Neal MacLean, Bounce Books, Preston, 2022, pp. i-191, ISBN 9780645449389.

Western District's Hamilton has long been a noted centre of education, with a number of public and private primary, secondary and tertiary educational institutions. Hamilton and Alexandra College is the amalgam of two of these, Hamilton College founded in 1871 and Alexandra College in 1872. The schools joined as a co-educational college in 1962 remaining with the Presbyterian fold until the creation of the Uniting Church in 1977. Written by a long-serving teacher, this history tells us much about the locality, the development of education in Victoria and the influence of some of its more famous alumni. Handsomely produced and generously illustrated from the school's own archives, a valuable example of the genre.



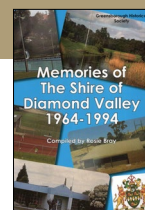
Rupanyup: the Early Years. Kris Nitschke, the author, 2022, pp. i-258, ISBN 9780646862620.

Here is another local history with a focus on a discrete period of its history. Rupanyup, a Wimmera town to the east of Horsham, was settled from the 1870s onwards although there were local European selections dating back to the early 1860s. This book traces the life of the town, or more precisely its inhabitants, until 1900. Interestingly, the author has never lived there but is tied to the town through family. With its genesis in a study of family history, there is a rich vein of research here which looks at the families of local selectors and townspeople. Like other Wimmera towns, a good number of the early settlers were German.



Lights Everlasting: Australia's Commemorative Stained Glass from the Boer War to Vietnam. Bronwyn Hughes, Australian Scholarly Publishing, North Melbourne, 2023, pp. vii-255, ISBN 9781922669827.

Readers of *History News* will need no introduction to Bronwyn Hughes, whose 'Windows on History' column highlighting the stained glass heritage across Victoria regularly graces these pages. *Lights Everlasting* is the story of Australians at war through the prism of commemorative stained glass. Peaking in the years after World War I, when people sought more personal lasting remembrance of husbands, fathers and sons buried in distant graves. Many of these works are in churches. When no longer wanted, churches are sold or repurposed these glass commemoratives are at risk of disappearing from public view. This richly and beautifully illustrated work traces sometimes simple, often grand stained glass memorials to service and tragedy across the country.



Memories of the Shire of Diamond Valley 1964-1994. Rosie Bray, Greensborough Historical Society, Lower Plenty, 2022, pp. 1-97, ISBN 9781922691965.

As Melbourne expanded in the 1960s, some local government areas divided and reformed as new municipalities. Under the 1994 restructuring of local government by the Kennett Government, 210 shires became 78, later 79, and some of these newer municipalities were among those to disappear. The Shire of Diamond Valley was one such. Created in 1964, it split off the large and mostly rural North Ward from the City of Heidelberg. The split was in no small measure due to ratepayer pressure. The Shire's 30-year life marks it out as the shortest-lived municipality to fall to the 1994 council amalgamations. This brief history celebrates the achievements and personalities of the Shire's story.



A history of Sedgwick: Celebrating 80 Years of the Sedgwick Fire Brigade. Ken James, Noel Davis and Louise Howland, the authors, Sedgwick, 2022, pp. vii-255, ISBN 9780648222897.

This is a thumping great book of more than 500 pages detailing the history of Sedgwick, a community of 600-odd, 16 kilometres south of Bendigo. On Dja Dja Wurrung country, it was first occupied by Europeans in 1854 and known as Upper Emu Creek until 1901. Aside from mining activity, which lasted into the early 20th century, Sedgwick has been centred on mixed farming and fruit growing for much of its existence. Here is recorded the activities, people and families that constitute a rural community. It will be of great interest to those with a connection. The book also celebrates 80 years of the Sedgwick fire brigade, to which all proceeds will be donated.