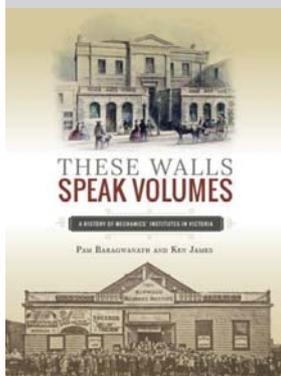




## TURNER LECTURE



## Pam Baragwanath THESE WALLS SPEAK VOLUMES A History of Mechanics' Institutes in Victoria

Former PMI and MIV committee member, Pam Baragwanath, will present an illustrated lecture on the recently launched follow-up to *If the walls could speak*.

**3.00 pm, Saturday, 28 May 2016**  
(following the PMI AGM at 2.00pm)

in the Moss Room, PMI, 39 St Edmonds Road, Prahran

Free entry, all welcome, refreshments provided, bookings essential  
9510 3393 or [library@pmi.net.au](mailto:library@pmi.net.au)

## INSIDE

Around the Library . . . .	2
Short History Prize . . . . .	3
Member Tips & Tricks . . . . .	3
Books Etcetera . . . . .	4

### ABOUT THE PMI

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Pres: Cr John Chandler

### CONTACT

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E [library@pmi.net.au](mailto:library@pmi.net.au)  
W [www.pmi.net.au](http://www.pmi.net.au)

### OPEN:

**Mon, Tue, Wed, Fri**  
9.30am - 4.30pm  
**Thu**  
9.30am - 7.00pm  
excluding public holidays  
and the Christmas/New Year  
period.

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9510 9311 [www.windsorcommunity.com.au](http://www.windsorcommunity.com.au)

## COMING UP



# Shining a Light

## How art helps us discover our unknowable selves

The first of a series of lectures by eminent historian  
Dr Judith Buckrich on Australian art books in the  
Victorian History Library

Introduced by David Hurlson, NGV Senior Curator of Australian Art

1st floor  
39 St Edmonds Road  
Prahran VIC 3181

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9510 3393  
[library@pmi.net.au](mailto:library@pmi.net.au)

[www.pmi.net.au](http://www.pmi.net.au)

6.30pm, Thursday  
28 April 2016

## INSIDE



AGM  
2pm, Sat 28 May

Details on p.2

*Goodbye from  
Christine*

p.2



# AROUND THE LIBRARY

## MEMBER NEWS

### New Members

Welcome to the following new members who joined Feb-Mar:

Marc Boers  
Dr Mimi Colligan  
Ed Davies  
Mark Denton  
Margie Gillett  
Martin Jackson  
Susan Jost  
Justin Kann  
Douglas Lavers

Amanda Loughman  
Susan Maclellan  
Jane Millard  
Ken Norling  
Christine Norman  
Gaylene Phillips  
Trevor Poultney  
Tim Randall  
Mary Reilly  
Nic Robinson  
Malcolm Rosier  
Gary Smith  
Shirley Woodcroft

### Book Donors

Thank you to the following people and groups who donated books to the library Feb-Mar:

Bayside Library Service  
Berwick Mechanics' Institute  
Ivan Binns  
Box Hill RSL  
Estate of Adrian Brogan  
Judith Buckrich  
Margaret Dunne  
Dr David Harmer  
Heritage Network East  
Gippsland  
Prof Wallace Kirsop

Mirek Kurcki  
Andrew Linden  
Ian Matthews  
Catherine Milward-Bason  
Mary-Louise Phillips  
Dr Lesley Preston  
Craig Robertson  
Irene Robinson  
Library of Dr Ron Smith  
Sunshine & District  
Historical Society  
Ulla Svensson  
Whitehorse Historical  
Society  
Christine Worthington  
Yarra Plenty Regional Library

## GENERAL NEWS

### Annual General Meeting

Accompanying this newsletter should be your notice of the PMI's Annual General Meeting to be held Sat 28 May.

Refreshments provided - please RSVP by Monday 25 May so we can make seating arrangements.

Reports will be provided on RSVP.

There are two committee positions up for re-election. If you wish to nominate for the committee, nomination forms are available from the Secretary Librarian.

Nomination forms must be received by 4.30pm Sat 23 May. ■

### New Compactus

We now have a second compactus installed in the Mason Room (ground floor), which will assist us greatly in the storage of items in stacks. Swinburne University donated the compactus and we're very grateful to John Deacon of Swinburne for making the arrangements. ■

### Friends of the PMI

Thank you to Wendy Eldridge who has kindly volunteered to be the Convenor of the Friends of the PMI. Anyone who would like to come along to the next meeting may contact her at [weldridge5@bigpond.com](mailto:weldridge5@bigpond.com) ■

## GENERAL NEWS

### Goodbye from Christine!

After more than 15 years at the PMI, I will be moving on in April to take up the very exciting position of Collections Manager & Volunteer Coordinator at the Royal Historical Society of Victoria. It's been a pleasure to get to know and serve our library borrowers and to contribute to the development of the library service which has seen so much amazing progress over the past decade and a half.

I'm very lucky to have been given the opportunity to grow my skills and innovate at the PMI. One of my proudest achievements is the establishment and management of PMI Press and the publication of 15 books. This was a steep but extremely worthwhile learning curve for me and I'm so grateful for the patience and enthusiasm of all the authors whose works we published.

It was also a great pleasure to establish and manage the PMI volunteer program which has been a great strength of the PMI since 2008, thanks to the dedication and effort of so many who have given their support and time to us. The library would not have come so far without you all. ■

### Thanks to Robin Grow

Thanks so much to Robin Grow who delivered this year's Laurie McCalman Lecture on 27 Feb. A joint presentation with the Prahran Historical & Arts Society, there was terrific attendance for this lecture, and we were treated to a colourful and vibrant account of a violent 1930s Melbourne crime and the court dramas that followed. ■



Above: Christine Worthington, Robin Grow, Gabriel Hermes (President, Prahran Historical & Arts Society)

### PMI Press

The subcommittee is now deliberating and an announcement will be made soon. ■

### MIV Bus Tour

On Sunday 29 May the Mechanics' Institutes of Victoria will have another of their very popular bus tours. This tour will cover the south and south east of metropolitan Melbourne and will include visits to mechanics' institutes in Prahran, Frankston, Somerville, Narre Warren and Berwick.

There will be an early bus pick-up at 9am in Berwick and at 10am the tour begins at the PMI. The cost is \$50 which includes a light lunch at the Somerville Hotel.

For further information and bookings, please contact Judith Dwyer 9707 4254 or [jad134@hotmail.com](mailto:jad134@hotmail.com) ■

# AROUND THE LIBRARY

## GENERAL NEWS

### Oral history

On 16 March, former PMI staff members Cathy Milward-Bason, Ingrid Kasapyan and Betty Yuen visited the PMI for an oral history interview to add to our archives. It was terrific to record the observations and experiences of these three, who between them had nearly 35 years of experience working at the PMI, and to have a thoroughly informative and enjoyable discussion about life at the PMI in the 1980s and 90s.

This oral history compliments a recorded interview with former Secretary Librarian Bruce Turner some years ago. ■



Above: Christine, Cathy, Ingrid & Betty

## ancestry library edition

Recently added to Australian Library Edition:

Global, Gravestone Photograph Index, 1265-2014 : An international directory of grave monuments

Over 525,000 graves and 1,160,000 names from the website <http://www.gravestonephotos.com>

Johns' Notable Australians

This collection, a forerunner of what became Australian Who's Who, consists of approximately 1300 brief biographical descriptions of notable Australians. It also includes a list of "Notable Dead". The collection is arranged alphabetically, except for a special section on government officials.

Queensland, Australia, Death Inquest Index, 1859 - 1897  
New South Wales Government Gazettes, 1853-1899

Government gazettes "published by Authority" provided an official communication channel for regulations, legislation, and other official information to be shared with government officials and employees, as well as the public at large. New South Wales published its first official gazette in March 1832. This database includes 149 issues of the gazette published between 1853 and 1899.

**You can access Ancestry Library Edition on any of the new public computers at the library, or bring your own laptop and we'll show you how to log in to the network. ■**

## MEMBER TIPS & TRICKS

Did you know you can add an 'Area of interest' to your record? Here's how:

1. Log into the catalogue using your email address and password (as described in our February newsletter)
2. Hover your mouse over **Catalogue** to see a list of sub menu items including **Areas of Interest**
3. Using the search box provided, find subjects you are interested in - you might choose a place name, or a subject such as 'gold mines and mining' or 'bushrangers'. Select the subject heading from the drop-down list.
4. Click the **Add** button next to the search box, and your saved area should appear below. This means that you will receive an automatic notification of any items added to the catalogue which are given that subject heading.
5. Your areas of interest will appear below the search box as a check-box list - so any time you want to remove an area of interest you can select the relevant check box and click the delete button at the top of the list.
6. If you have any difficulties logging in and adding areas of interest to your record, let us know and we will assist by email, over the phone, or in person next time you visit.

## SHORT HISTORY PRIZE 2016

The PMI invites you to participate in the

### **2016 Short History Prize**

**Prize:** \$1,000 – \$500 for the author(s) and \$500 for the associated historical group.

**Topic:** A historical essay, article or work of a place or an aspect of a place in Victoria, Australia, or a person associated with a place in Victoria, written by a member or members of a Victorian historical society or similar organisation.

**Closing Date:** Friday 26 August 2016

A panel from the Professional Historians Association judges the prize.

To download a copy of the guidelines and entry form, visit:



**Short  
History  
Prize  
2016**

<http://www.pmi.net.au/events/#shp>

# BOOKS ETCETERA (Notes from publishers' blurbs)

## AUSTRALIAN FICTION

Napoleon's last island / Tom Keneally 2015  
Rush oh! / Shirley Barrett 2015  
The Darian Richards crime files : Promise and Dead girl sing / Tony Cavanaugh 2014  
The natural way of things / Charlotte Wood 2015  
That empty feeling / Peter Corris 2016

## NON-FICTION

**Australia 1901 - 2001 : a narrative history / Andrew Tink 2014**

Andrew Tink's superb book tells the story of Australia in the twentieth century, from Federation to the Sydney 2000 Olympics. A century marked by the trauma of war and the despair of the depression, balanced by extraordinary achievements in sport, science and the arts. A country underpinned by a political system that worked most of the time and the emergence of a mainly harmonious society. Australians at the start of the century could hardly have imagined the prosperity enjoyed by their diverse countrymen and women one hundred years later. Tink's story is driven by people, whether they be prime ministers, soldiers, shopkeepers, singers, footballers or farmers; a mix of men or women, Australian-born, immigrants and Aborigines. He brings the decades to life, writing with empathy, humour and insight to create a narrative that is as entertaining as it is illuminating. **Battleground : why the Liberal Party shirtfronted Tony Abbott / Wayne Errington and Peter Van Onselen 2015**

Tony Abbott came to the prime ministership lauded as the most effective leader of the opposition since Whitlam. Why then did he fail to succeed in the job to which he had aspired for decades? Frontbenchers leaked about cabinet processes to the media while backbenchers complained about the lack of access to their leader?

Abbott's long apprenticeship in religion, journalism and political life prepared him for neither the mundane business of managing people nor the commanding heights of national leadership. Public goodwill evaporated after a tough first budget. Inside the

Liberal Party individual ambitions and a succession of poor polls fuelled increasing concern that the next election was un-winnable.

**Battleground** chronicles the paradox of the Abbott prime ministership: steadfast loyalty when pragmatism was required; social values at odds with community attitudes; stubbornness when tactics and strategy were essential. All would bring him undone. **Silent shock : the men behind the thalidomide scandal and an Australian family's long road to justice / by Michael Magazanik 2015**

Lyn Rowe was born in Melbourne in 1962, seven months after her mother Wendy was given a new 'wonder drug' for morning sickness called thalidomide. For fifty years the Rowe family cared for Lyn. Decades of exhausting, round-the-clock work. But then in 2011 Lyn Rowe launched a legal claim against the thalidomide companies. Against the odds, she won a multimillion-dollar settlement.

Former journalist Michael Magazanik is one of the lawyers who ran Lyn's case. In **Silent Shock** he exposes a fifty-year cover up concerning history's most notorious drug, and details not only the damning case against manufacturers Gruenthal - whose ruthless promotion of their lucrative drug in the face of mounting evidence beggars belief - but also the moving story of the Rowe family. This is an epic account of corporate villainy against a backdrop of heroic personal struggle and sacrifice. **Barristers solicitors pettifoggers : profiles in Australian colonial legal history / Simon Smith 2014**

In the two hundred and twenty-five years since 1788, lawyers have carved out a prominent and respected place in the life of Australia. It has not always been so. The first lawyers to arrive in 1788 were convicts. It took a further four decades before 'free' trained lawyers began to arrive in the colony. Even so, the reputation of the profession was poor; too many lawyers were seen as 'Pettifoggers'. It took time for the profession to win community respect; a task that is never finished. This book canvasses the start of that

journey with a focus on the general period 1820-1850. It explores what brought the early lawyers to Australia, the communities they found and how they fared. It takes as a particular focus five lawyers who pushed the boundaries and were disciplined as a result. These previously untold stories provide a fascinating insight into colonial Australia, the development of the legal profession and the rule of law.

**Evil life : the true story of the Calabrian Mafia in Australia / Clive Small and Tom Gilling 2016**

As powerful today as it ever was, the Calabrian Mafia's involvement in organised crime in Australia is long and deep. Key Mafia families are linked to international crime syndicates around the world, shifting massive stashes of drugs and money through increasingly complex networks. With powerful and uncompromising clarity, **Evil Life** shows that Australia is a major part of the global drug network. It also demonstrates how cultural ties built on decades of Italian migration have been used to create modern and highly sophisticated crime syndicates. The dark side of the Italian diaspora is revealed in all its unexpected detail.

**Great properties of country Victoria : the Western District's golden age / Richard Allen and Kimbal Baker 2015**

This area, extending from the Grampians region in the south-west of the state to Geelong in the east, and stretching as far north as Ararat, has some of the most productive land in Australia and some of its most renowned homesteads and gardens. In this fascinating and beautiful book, Richard Allen and Kimbal Baker take us into the private world of twenty of these most notable properties. Through their early histories we follow their fortunes and see the splendour of these great homes. It is a tribute to the past, when fortunes built elaborate mansions and grand gardens, and to the present owners who have so lovingly preserved their properties' architectural heritage. ■

**See our 'Recent Additions' for more!**