



COMING UP

EXCITING NEWS! LIBRARY CARPET REPLACEMENT COMING SOON!

We are pleased to announce that we are currently in the process of arranging replacement of the carpet throughout the library.

The library will need to close for approximately two weeks while the old carpet is removed and the new carpet is laid.

We will be running a temporary limited library service from the ground floor during this time. Full details will be announced once all arrangements have been finalised.

Our annual Laurie McCalman Presentation which is general held around February/March will be held later in the year.

WELCOME FROM THE SECRETARY LIBRARIAN



Welcome to our first newsletter for 2018. We are settling in for another busy and exciting year and hopefully you will join us at our various events and exhibitions.

One of the interesting things about local history is how people's perspective and focus changes in light of what is happening around them.

For example in the early 1970s there was concerted efforts to establish working tram museums in Ballarat and Bendigo, shortly before the closure of those two tram networks. Today over 40 years later we have people very interested in the retention of the Festival Hall in Dudley Street and all its 'charm'. Other interests such as the retention of trees along St

Kilda Road and saving old commercial buildings from inappropriate redevelopment or demolition goes on.

History is not only about recording and reflecting on the past, but it is also setting a contextual framework for the future. As mentioned above, we will be replacing our carpet with carpet tiles in the next month or so which will require us to close potentially for a short time. We will keep you posted on this.

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ABOUT THE PMI

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OPEN:

Mon, Tue, Wed, Fri
9:30am - 4:30pm

Thu
9:30am - 7pm
excluding public holidays and
the Christmas/New Year period.

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AROUND THE LIBRARY

GENERAL NEWS

Library Lover's Day - 14 February

This month we celebrated Library Lover's Day in the library with book displays.

The theme this year was *Love Letters to Libraries*. The Australian Library and Information Service sought love letters from prominent Australian authors on how they hold libraries in a special place in their hearts and produced posters of these love letters. We displayed the posters around the library encouraging members to write their own love letter to the PMI Victorian History Library. We hope to share some of these in the next edition of the newsletter.



We also invited members to place paper hearts in books that they love so if you happen to find one in a book you borrow you will know that it held a special place in someone else's heart.

We reached out to our Facebook followers to share their Australian TV show, song and television ad guilty pleasures.

The library staff also wore red to celebrate the day



PMI staff members (L-R) Ursula Zamenick, Steven Haby, Ellen Coates and Chris Moysey-Barker



Ancestry Library Edition: What's New!

New Wills, Probates, Land Tax & Criminal database:

- Web: Australia, Convict Records Index, 1787-1867: 134,409

Updated Births, Marriage and Deaths

- Sydney, Australia, Anglican Parish Registers, 1814-2011: 1,479,830
- Australia and New Zealand, Obituary Index, 2004-2017: 362,636
- Australia and New Zealand, Find A Grave Index, 1800s-Current: 4,311,100

Updated Military

- Australia, WWI Service Records, 1914-1920: 687,706

New Schools, Directories & Church Histories

- Queensland, Australia, Mining Accident Index, 1882-1945 : 8,903

Instituting the Past: A PMI Library Blog

Dr Michelle Negus-Cleary, PMI member and General Manager Archaeology and Cultural Heritage at Dr. Vincent Clark & Associates, has kindly volunteered to author this month's *Plotting History* article.

You may remember Dr Negus-Cleary who presented the *Cato Street Archaeological Dig* talk we held last year.

The article will be posted soon, so keep an eye on the Blog at institutingthepast.wordpress.com for what is sure to be a very interesting article.

AUSTRALIAN HERITAGE FESTIVAL



AUSTRALIAN
HERITAGE
FESTIVAL

We have once again registered to be part of the *National Trust Australian Heritage Festival*. We have expanded our program this year to include more events.

The *National Trust Heritage Festival* events will be announced on Monday 26 February 2018.

You will find full details of our events along with booking details on the Events page of our website at www.pmi.net.au/Events.

AROUND THE LIBRARY

STELLA PRIZE LONGLIST



The 2018 Stella Prize longlist has been announced. This year the longlist showcases the power and diversity of writing by women in Australia

The PMI Library has the following titles in the collection:

- *The Life to Come* / Michelle De Kretser
- *Terra Nullius* / Claire Coleman
- *Tracker* / Alexis Wright
- *The Choke* / Sofie Laguna
- *The Writing Life: Helen Garner and Her Work* / Bernadette Brennan



The Green Bell / Paula Keogh and *Martin Sharp: His Life and Times* / Joyce Morgan are currently on order and should be available soon:

The 2018 Stella Prize shortlist will be announced on International Women's Day, 8 March with the overall 2018 Stella Prize winner being announced on 12 April.

WHAT'S ON AROUND VICTORIA

Port Melbourne First World War Centenary Project

This project is a major undertaking by the Port Melbourne Historical and Preservation Society supported by the Australian Government under the Anzac Centenary Local Grants Program.

It aims to record details of people connected to Port Melbourne who served during WWI as well as how the war affected the Home Front at Port.

Those people and stories will be documented on their website and the associated Facebook page which will track enlistments and events 100 years after they happened.

If you think you have information to contribute to this project, please visit <http://portmelbfirstworldwar100.org.au/how-can-i-contribute/>.

More information: <http://portmelbfirstworldwar100.org.au/about/>

New Records Now Available at the PRO

A series of early church records of baptisms, marriages and burials 1836 to 1873 and probates processed through the Supreme Court in 2016 have now been added to the PRO Collection.

Records can be ordered online for viewing in the PRO Reading Room.

More information: www.prov.vic.gov.au/about-us/our-blog

Catwalk to Sidewalk: Photo Exhibition at the PRO

This photographic exhibition, showcasing Melbourne's fashion through archival photographs and present-day street photography is in its last days and will wrap up on 29 February 2018.

Where: Victorian Archives Centre

More information: www.prov.vic.gov.au/whats/public-exhibitions/catwalk-sidewalk-photo-exhibition

Genaivisheh Shtiklech (Tricky Pieces) Exhibition

The National Trust, in collaboration with Linden New Art, presents a new exhibition from Melbourne-based artist Nicole Newman rich in metaphor and dark in humour.

The exhibition showcases 16 enigmatic new works. Each of the small-scale, intricately silver-smithed sculptures in perspex combine language, metaphor and conflict to both puzzle and enlighten.

This event is running on selected dates from 23 February 2018 until 9 March 2018. It is next occurring on 23 Feb 2018 9:00 am — 5:00 pm.

When: Selected dates from 23 February - 9 March 2018

Where: Tasma Terrace

More information: www.nationaltrust.org.au/event/genaivisheh-shtiklech-tricky-pieces-exhibition-2018/

If you are associated with a community group and have an event you'd like us to promote in our newsletter, please send an email to chris@pmi.net.au.

UNUSUAL PLACE NAMES IN VICTORIA, PART 2

Steven Haby, Secretary Librarian

Following on from our last edition, below are some snippets about a selection of various localities across Victoria and how their name came about.

Speed

Located 143 km south of Mildura on the Sunraysia Highway, Speed was named after three brothers – William, Harold and Gordon Speed, who settled in the area around 1903. The town was officially surveyed in 1910. The railway station opened in 1903 and closed on 12 September 1993 for passenger traffic.

Spion Kopje

There are actually 3 localities within Victoria with this name. There is an alpine peak north of Falls Creek named by George Fitzgerald after a Boer War battle site. It is also a mountain peak SE of Powelltown and a section of railway line between North Melbourne and Footscray coined by railwaymen due to its short and steep gradients. It is officially referred to in railway working timetables as Spion Kop.



Image: Spion Kopje, by Vberger (Own work) [Public domain], via Wikimedia Commons

Springfield

No not the city in the television cartoon series *The Simpsons* but rather a Parish County of Bourke, located 13 km SE of Kilmore. Possibly named after Springfield Castle, Limerick in Ireland by settlers who arrived from that area.

Staff Camp Creek

Named after the first SEC camp established for the Keiwa Hydroelectric Scheme. The creek flows into Junction Dam.

Stalker

A former siding near Lavers Hill on the Colac to Crowes railway line named after local settler Duncan Stalker.

Starvation Creek

An unsuccessful attempt to pan for gold in this waterway near Warburton in 1860 gave this creek its name.



Image: Robert Hoddle Dec. 1845 near Source of Yarra Yarra River Starvation Creek, Date(s): 1860, Creator: Short, Henry 1807-1865, artist. Source: www.slv.vic.gov.au

Suggan Buggan

Parish County of Tambo and remote rural locality alongside Toonginbooka River near Buchan. Likely an adaption of the Indigenous name for bags made of grass 'bukkan bukan'.

Tanti Park

Derived from Tanti Creek which is a small creek flowing through Mornington to Mills Beach. The name originally came from the Indigenous word for black dog 'yantican'. In later years the name was used for

a railway platform built to service an estate between Moorooduc and Mornington and is now the terminus of the Mornington Peninsula Tourist Railway.



Image: The unused ticket office/shelter at Tanti Park Railway Station, by Alphaslucas (Own work) [CC BY-SA 3.0 (<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/3.0/>)], via Wikimedia Commons

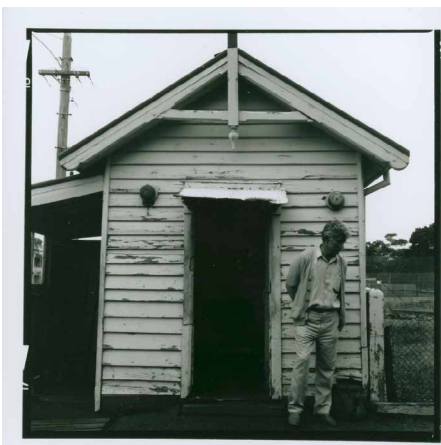
Teddywaddy

Indigenous word for muddy water, a locality near Charlton.

Trunk Lead

A locality near Kopke railway station, west of Ballarat named in 1885 presumably after a main gold bearing lead.

Upfield



Terminus of the railway line from North Melbourne and adjacent to the former Ford manufacturing plant. Another interesting story that has circulated was that when the railway line from Fawker and Gowrie was (re)opened to

Upfield the Victorian Railways original plan was to name the station North Campbellfield but it was too long for the destination blinds of the suburban trains so Upfield was chosen as in 'up from Campbellfield'.

Image: Gate Keeper's House And Employees On Upfield Line, Brunswick, Date(s): 1970/1996, Creator: Rogers, Phillip photographer, Source: www.slv.vic.gov.au

Victoria Park

A locality within Collingwood, formerly known as Dight's Paddock

Vite Vite

Indigenous name for wading birds in a local swap.

Walla Walla

Parish County of Bourke, near Wallan and is an Indigenous name for rain or floodwaters.

Warncoort

A locality on the Princes Highway to Warrnambool, near Colac. Indigenous name for bandicoot running. Formerly a one person school and a railway station (originally named Irrewarra but changed in 1889).

Windsor

Part of Prahran and named after Windsor in England. Originally named Prahran South.



Image: Tram on Chapel Street, Windsor Source: by Biatch at English Wikipedia [Public domain], via Wikimedia Commons

W Tree

A remote district north of Buchan. Apparently drovers camped adjacent to a 'W' shaped tree which bushfires destroyed. It may also relate to wattle trees.

Yankee Jim's Creek

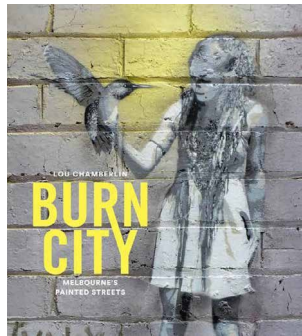
The original site of Warburton. Named after an American gold prospector who discovered gold there in 1860. He later returned to the U.S. where he met an untimely demise in a hotel fight.

Zealey Point

An alternative name for Pt Danger at Torquay and derived from Robert Zeally (or Zealley) a local landowner.

New Books

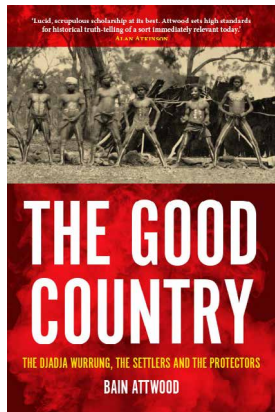
Burn City: Melbourne's painted streets / Lou Chamberlin



Lou Chamberlin has been capturing Melbourne's street art scene through the lens since 2005. This fourth publication from the photographer focuses on vibrant spray painted murals, stencil art and paste ups which adorn the laneways and streetscapes of the city with works created on reusable

canvas backdrops of corrugated roller doors, brick walls, footpaths, drains and traffic signal boxes. The ephemeral nature of this contemporary urban art form begs for preservation through print and digital media; in the book Chamberlin includes artist details and their Instagram tags. Look out for well-known and emerging national and international, street and graffiti artists including Adnate, Rone, Makatron, Vexta and so many more in these pages.

The Good Country: The Djadja Wurrung, the settlers and the protectors / Bain Attwood



Beyond the generalisations of national and colonial history, what can we know about how Aboriginal nations interacted with the British settlers who invaded their country, the men appointed by the imperial and colonial governments to protect them, and each other?

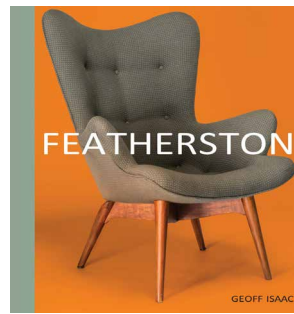
In *The Good Country* Bain Attwood makes a major contribution to our knowledge of this period by providing a superbly researched,

finely grained local history of the Djadja Wurrung people of Central Victoria.

The story is a shocking one, of destruction, decimation and dispossession, but, equally powerfully, it is not one of unceasing conflict. With reference to an unusually rich historical record, concepts such as the frontier and resistance emerge as inadequate in this context. Attwood recovers a good deal of the *modus vivendi* that the Djadja Wurrung reached with sympathetic protectors, pastoralists and gold diggers, showing how they both adopted and adapted to these intruders to remain in their own country, at least for a time.

Finally, drawing past and present together, Attwood relates the remarkable story of the revival of the Djadja Wurrung in recent times as they have sought to become their own historians.

Featherston / Geoff Isaac

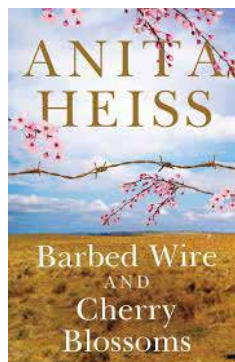


This is the first book to celebrate the life and work of Grant Featherston (1922–1995), the Melbourne-based industrial designer most well known for his Contour chairs. This collection was designed and developed in the early 1950s and remains highly sought after by mid-century collectors in Australia

and overseas – often fetching \$10,000 or more at auction.

Featherston, later joined by his second wife, Mary, designed hundreds of chairs over the next thirty years; however, this astonishing Australian industrial design partnership has gone largely uncelebrated until now. Featherston focuses on the chairs produced between 1947 and 1975 and presents a new biography of the designer, drawn from archival research and interviews with his peers. It is extensively illustrated with over 250 beautiful photographs and includes a selection from the previously unpublished personal archive of Ian Howard, the former Managing Director of Melbourne-based manufacturer Aristoc.

Barbed Wire and Cherry Blossoms / Anita Heiss (fiction)



A story about a love that transcends all boundaries, from one of Australia's best loved authors.

5 August, 1944

Over 1000 Japanese soldiers break out of the No.12 Prisoner of War compound on the fringes of Cowra. In the carnage, hundreds are killed, many are recaptured, and some take their own lives rather than suffer the

humiliation of ongoing defeat.

But one soldier, Hiroshi, manages to escape.

At nearby Erambie Station, an Aboriginal mission, Banjo Williams, father of five and proud man of his community, discovers Hiroshi, distraught and on the run. Unlike most of the townsfolk who dislike and distrust the Japanese, the people of Erambie choose compassion and offer Hiroshi refuge. Mary, Banjo's daughter, is intrigued by the softly spoken stranger, and charmed with his care.

For the community, life at Erambie is one of restriction and exclusion – living under Acts of Protection and Assimilation, and always under the ruthless eye of the mission Manager. On top of wartime hardships, families live without basic rights.

Love blossoms between Mary and Hiroshi, and they each dream of a future together. But how long can Hiroshi be hidden safely and their bond kept a secret?

The Trauma Cleaner: One woman's extraordinary life in death, decay and disaster / Sarah Krasnostein

Winner Victorian Premier's Literary Award: The Victorian Prize for Literature, and the Prize for Non-Fiction



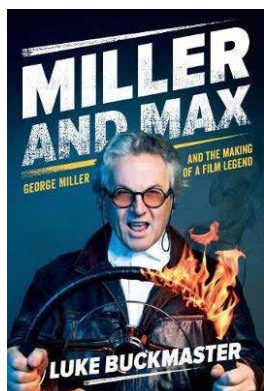
Before she was a trauma cleaner, Sandra Pankhurst was many things: husband and father, drag queen, gender reassignment patient, sex worker, small businesswoman, trophy wife...

But as a little boy, raised in violence and excluded from the family home, she just wanted to belong. Now she believes her clients deserve no less.

A woman who sleeps among garbage she has not put out for forty years. A man who bled quietly to death in his loungeroom. A woman who lives with rats, random debris and terrified delusion. The still life of a home vacated by accidental overdose.

Sarah Krasnostein has watched the extraordinary Sandra Pankhurst bring order and care to these, the living and the dead—and the book she has written is equally extraordinary. Not just the compelling story of a fascinating life among lives of desperation, but an affirmation that, as isolated as we may feel, we are all in this together.

Miller and Max: George Miller and the making of a film legend / Luke Buckmaster



George Miller made his first film, *Mad Max*, in 1976 after raising \$300,000 from family and friends and hiring a no-name actor, Mel Gibson. Edited in his kitchen, it would become the most profitable film ever made, a position it held for over two decades.

Miller and Max is the story of two heroes. One, a leather jacket-clad road warrior whose adventures in

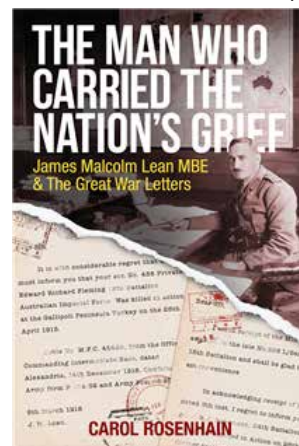
a dystopian future have made an indelible imprint on global popular culture. The second, the artist who created him: a softly spoken son of Greek and Turkish immigrants, whose life charts a spectacular course from small-town Australia to the highest echelons of Hollywood. Written with the cooperation of a role call of cast, crew, family and associates, *Miller and Max* gets behind the scenes and on set, as well as behind Miller's sensible-sounding camouflage to reveal what's really inside the man — which is more than a little Max Rockatansky. Both forces seem to come out of nowhere; both remain to this day huge forces in the zeitgeist and are truly heroes of our

time. Miller and Max is a revelatory biography of a piece of film history.

Coming Soon

The Man Who Carried the Nation's Grief: James Malcolm Lean MBE and the Great War letters / Carol Rosenhain

'I do feel the loss of my two boys, they was my all ...'



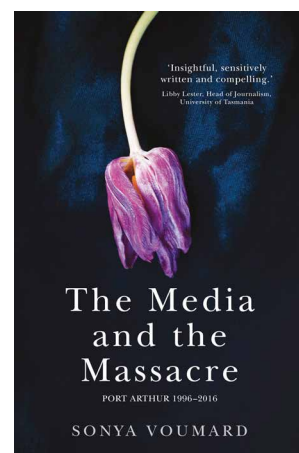
wrote grieving father Ernest Watts following the death of his two sons.

Like thousands of Australians during World War I, Ernest Watts received his tragic news through the office known as 'Base Records'. This letter was just one in a series of correspondence that lasted the duration of the war and well into the post-war period. Every letter was answered with patience and courtesy and every

response carried the same signature: J.M. Lean.

"The Man who Carried the Nation's Grief" describes the extraordinary work of James Lean, whose office at times received over 100 letters a day from distressed families. The letters selected by author Carole Rosenhain are quoted verbatim in all their rawness; showing the families' grief, anger and disbelief, together with the devastating wounds that would often never heal. The chain of correspondence between Lean and the family would often last well beyond the Armistice of 1918.

The Media and the Massacre: Port Arthur 1996-2016 / Sonya Voumard



A chilling portrayal of journalism, betrayal, and storytelling surrounding the 1996 Port Arthur massacre. Inspired, in part, by renowned American author Janet Malcolm's famously controversial work *The Journalist* and the Murderer, Voumard's elegant new work of literary non-fiction examines the fascinating theme of 'the writer's treachery'.

The author brings to bear her own journalistic experiences, ideas

and practices in a riveting inquiry into her profession that is part-memoir and part ethical investigation.

In the lead-up to the 20th anniversary of the Port Arthur massacre, *The Media and the Massacre* explores the nature of journalistic intent and many of the wider moral and social issues of the storytelling surrounding the events and their place in our cultural memory.



Governance

The PMI is incorporated under the [Pahran Mechanics' Institute Act No 1617 \(1899\)](#) and operates under the [Rules of the Prahran Mechanics' Institute and Circulating Library](#), gazetted in the Victorian Parliament on 24 July 2007.

Members are provided with copies of the PMI legislation and Library Policy on request, and can [join our mailing list](#) to receive committee meeting minutes.

Committee

The PMI is administered by a committee of seven people. Six Committee members are elected by the members of the PMI at the annual general meeting for a four year term of office and one person appointed by the City of Stonnington. The current PMI Committee Members are:

- ▶ Cr Steve Stefanopoulos (President)
- ▶ Mr Ben Quin, CPA (Treasurer)
- ▶ Mr Chris Michalopoulos
- ▶ Dr Judith Buckrich (Vice President)
- ▶ Cr John Chandler OAM
- ▶ Cr Melina Sehr (City of Stonnington representative)

Peter Wolfenden has reluctantly resigned from the Committee to focus on his health. We wish him all the best for the future and thank him for his superlative efforts in regards to building and facilities matters at PMI. His expertise and good humour will be missed. The Committee is currently in the process of seeking a replacement.

The PMI Library Staff

- ▶ Steven Haby, (BASocSci Librarianship) (Secretary Librarian)
- ▶ Ellen Coates (BA (Hons); MA (Info. Stud.)) (Collections Librarian)
- ▶ Christine Moysey-Barker (AssocDegInfoStud) (Marketing and Communications Officer)
- ▶ Ursula Zamecnik (DipLib&InfSt) (Library Technician)

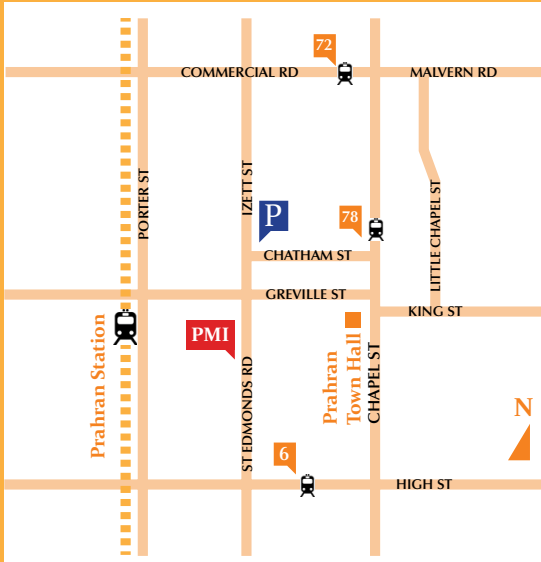
The Prahran Mechanics' Institute is an institutional member of the [Australian Library & Information Association](#) and is a member society of the [Royal Historical Society of Victoria](#).


Find Us Online

Did you know the PMI Library has a Facebook and Twitter page?


Check us out at:   /PMILibrary

Visit Us




 **Parking**


Parking is available at the institute on a first-come-first-serve basis. There are 3 spaces at the front of the building and a further 7 spaces in the garage (accessed from the front of the building on St Edmonds Rd) – please park in the numbered spaces to avoid blocking cars in. If all spaces are taken, there is 1 hour parking in St Edmonds Road and Greville Street. Please note the Cato Street carpark in Izett Street is now closed for redevelopment, visit www.stonnington.vic.gov.au/Development/Council-Projects/Cato-Square for more details in relation to parking in the area.

 **Trains**

The Institute is one block from Prahran Station (Sandringham Line), turn right into Greville Street and then right again into St Edmonds Rd.

 **Trams**

There is the #6 tram running along High Street, the #72 tram along Commercial Road and the #78 tram along Chapel Street.

 **Buses**

Buses #216, #219 and #220 run along Commercial Road. You can alight at the Prahran Market stop.