



COMING UP

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Seniors
Festival
October
2018

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#VictorianSeniorsFestival

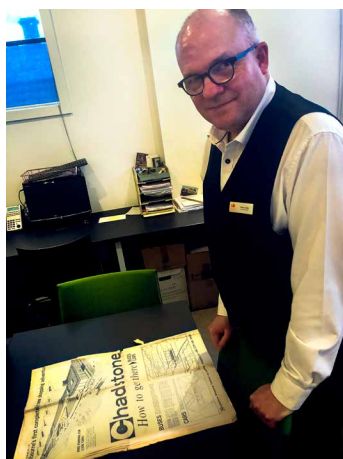


2018 Victorian Seniors Festival

This year's **Victorian Seniors Festival** program will be released on Wednesday 22 August. We are running another comprehensive program in conjunction with the festival. Some favourite events from last year will return along with a new walking tour and talks. All of our events will be live on the events page of our website from Wednesday 22 August. Keep an eye on your inbox, we'll be sending out an email to with full details of our program shortly.

Visit www.pmi.net.au/events for full details (announced Wednesday 22 August)

FROM THE SECRETARY LIBRARIAN



Our memories can be triggered by a number of stimuli whether it be sound, images or smells. In our latest newsletter's Histivia I have waxed lyrical about products and businesses that have either disappeared, or have been modified to suit the social fabric of the time.

As a youngster I remember listening to the seemingly endless Franco Cozzo advertisements on television, while I waited, in anticipation, of an exciting Thunderbirds episode on Channel 9 early Saturday and Sunday mornings.

As a teen, shopping with my mother, I remember visiting department stores in Box Hill, Camberwell and Richmond including Venture Stores, Louis, and of course Dimmeys and Fosseys.

For a friend's 18th birthday we made the trek out to the Swagman Restaurant in Ferntree Gully ... now an Aldi store.

Impulse purchases included buying Smurf toys with my pocket money from my local BP service station, or FAGS lollies from the milkbar opposite Box Hill South Primary School.

Memories play such a part of our life, and how we remember growing up in Melbourne and reflect on what Melbourne is today.

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OPEN:

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

Thu
9:30am - 7pm
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AROUND THE LIBRARY

New Faces

Speaking of the 'now' we welcome two new casual staff - Riannon and Renee who join us to provide support to the PMI whilst Ursula is on extended leave and when Ellen heads off to Europe later this year. I am very grateful to the PMI Committee for approving the appointment of two excellent casual staff to assist us during the next few months as Ursula and Ellen take well deserved breaks. Riannon has a background in event management and works at Casey Cardinia Library Service and Renee is in her final phase of finishing her Graduate studies in librarianship at Charles Sturt University.



Image: Riannon Berkeley, Casual Library Officer



Image: Renee Whitehead, Casual Library Officer

Other News

We also have other policies that underpin and support our work at PMI. One very important policy that has been approved by the Committee is our Collection Policy. This document essentially sets out what material and subject areas we focus on in regards to acquisitions and donations. I extend my thanks to Ellen, our Collections Librarian for her efforts in this very important document. It is available for viewing [on our website](#) or we can send a copy to you.

Chris Moysey-Barker, our Marketing and Communications Officer has been putting the final touches to our events for the latter half of 2018 which will be very exciting, so keep an eye on our website, Facebook page and future newsletters. We are also implementing an upcoming event email, which will be sent out at the beginning of each month.



Ancestry Library Edition: What's New!

Updated Births, Marriage and Deaths

- Australia and New Zealand, Obituary Index, 2004-2018: 371,171
- Australia and New Zealand, Find A Grave Index, 1800s-Current: 4,887,200

Finally I am very pleased to advise that after 12 months of lobbying the PMI has been given tentative approval to become an associate member of Public Libraries Victoria Network (PLVN) - the peak body that represents the interests of public library services across Victoria. Becoming an associate member will provide us an excellent opportunity to promote our collection through services such as Library Link Victoria - an inter-library loan portal used by all public libraries. We will also have wonderful opportunities to undertake collaborative work with our public library colleagues.

Steven Haby, Secretary Librarian

GENERAL NEWS

Placement Students and Volunteers



We have had a significant increase in volunteers joining the PMI in recent months, which is really encouraging. We now have twenty eight volunteers. They range from our long-term volunteers like our invaluable book carers to new volunteers who are mainly library students.

In the last two months the volunteers have been working on re-cataloguing the railway and indigenous sections of the library, helping with shelving and shelf reading, indexing our Australian Geographic magazines to add to the collection, indexing our minute books, helping with book sorting and with any number of other library tasks. They are very much appreciated. We also have a new volunteer policy which, hopefully, will help keep everyone on the same page, literally and figuratively.

The Friends of the PMI, led ably by Wendy Eldridge, have again put in an incredible effort with their work on our most recent book sale: sorting, categorising and selling hundreds of books. Not to mention physically moving all the books upstairs. Keep an eye out for the final sale of

AROUND THE LIBRARY

the year in October - members will have the opportunity to pre-order books from this sale.

In addition to the volunteers we have had two placement students: Renee Whitehead (who is now working casually for the PMI and who you will see round the library on Thursdays) and Melanie Paur, who did a full week with us and will be in on Wednesdays until the start of October. Both Melanie and Renee have worked in all aspects of the library. Specifically, Renee worked her way through all the periodicals upstairs and sorted out the full boxes, and Melanie has been working through some of our ordering and indexing and has been fantastic on the front counter.

Both placement students and volunteers are so important to the running of the PMI and as always, we really appreciate all their hard work. Upcoming projects for volunteers are going to lean heavily towards the relocation of parts of the collection downstairs, as we now have much more storage due to the installation of three new compactuses.

National Family History Month

we're part of



On Saturday 18 August we ran two events for **National Family History Month**.

In the morning, author, Hazel Edwards ran her very popular *How to Write a Non-Boring Family History* workshop.



23 eager participants took part in the 3 hour morning workshop, where Hazel's shared tips on a range of topics from researching and interviewing skills, to handling family secrets and launching and marketing possibilities along with a number of practical activities.

It was a wonderful practical workshop which not

only allowed participants to get hands on experience with what they were learning, but also gave them the opportunity to get to know other participants and their current and/or future projects.



In the afternoon, Dr James Donaldson gave a presentation on **Scottish Highland Migrants**. Dr Donaldson told the story of the selection, voyages, settlement and the life of Scottish Highland Migrants after their arrival in this country following the severe social, economic and cultural upheaval in Scotland during 1730-1830.



We had a great turn out with 23 enthusiastic people braving the afternoon rainy whether to come along and learn about the interesting history of Scottish Highland migrants. Many thoughtful questions kept Dr Donaldson on his toes.

Short Story Competition

During Library & Information Week in May this year, we held our first Short Story Competition. We had an overwhelming response with 31 entries.

Congratulations to Hannah Van Diddon, winner of our inaugural Short Story Competition with her story *Between Shelves*.

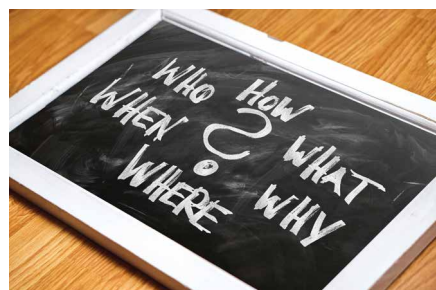


Judge and author Eliza Henry Jones described the story as 'original', having a 'strong voice' and 'deliciously creepy'.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who took part and in particular Eliza Henry Jones for donating her time to act as Judge.

You can read Hannah's winning story on the page 5.

Library Survey



Ellen and Chris have been working on a member survey to tell us how and why you use the library. The results will help us to continue developing our collection, services and programs

to best fit the needs of our members, users and local community.

Each person who completes the survey will have the option to enter our raffle for the chance to win a \$50 book voucher. Further information on how to take the survey will be announced in the next couple of weeks.

UPCOMING EVENTS

National Family History Month Events

We joined forces with Victorian historical societies, hosting pop up sessions in the library throughout August.

So far we have been visited by Malvern Historical Society, Glen Eira Historical Society, Scout Heritage Victoria and the St. Kilda Historical Society.

We still have a couple of pop ups to go including **Family History Connections** (the *Australian Institute of*

Genealogical Studies Inc.) on Wednesday 22 August - 9:30am-4:30pm, and the **Friends of the Library Family History Research Q&A Pop Up** on Wednesday 29 August - 9:30am-4:30pm. You can find full details of both of these pop ups on our website at www.pmi.net.au/events.

For full details about all of our upcoming events, please visit our website www.pmi.net.au/events.

HNSA Melbourne Chapter: 2018 Meet the Author Program



Join a Community of Writers talking about their Craft

Historical Novel Society Australasia (HNSA) hosts an annual event program focussed on the craft of

writing, bringing together established, emerging and aspiring writers to talk about their writing, the craft of writing, getting published and much more.

Who are the HNSA?

Historical Novel Society Australasia (HNSA) promotes the writing of historical fiction in Australia and New Zealand. Their flagship event is their biennial conference (held in Sydney in 2015 and Melbourne 2017), with local chapters across Australia. The Melbourne Chapter hosts a monthly lunch and an Events series – all intended to promote networking and support amongst aspiring, emerging and established writers.

Schedule

The HNSA's May and July events have been well received, covering 'Turning Historical Research into Storytelling' and 'Evaluating a Successful Manuscript'. Please join them for their upcoming events:

- ▶ **Thursday 13 September: Writing Strong Women on the Page**
- ▶ **Thursday 8 November: Watch their Facebook group for details.**

All events will be held from 6:30pm-8:30pm, here at the *PMI Victorian History Library*.

More Information

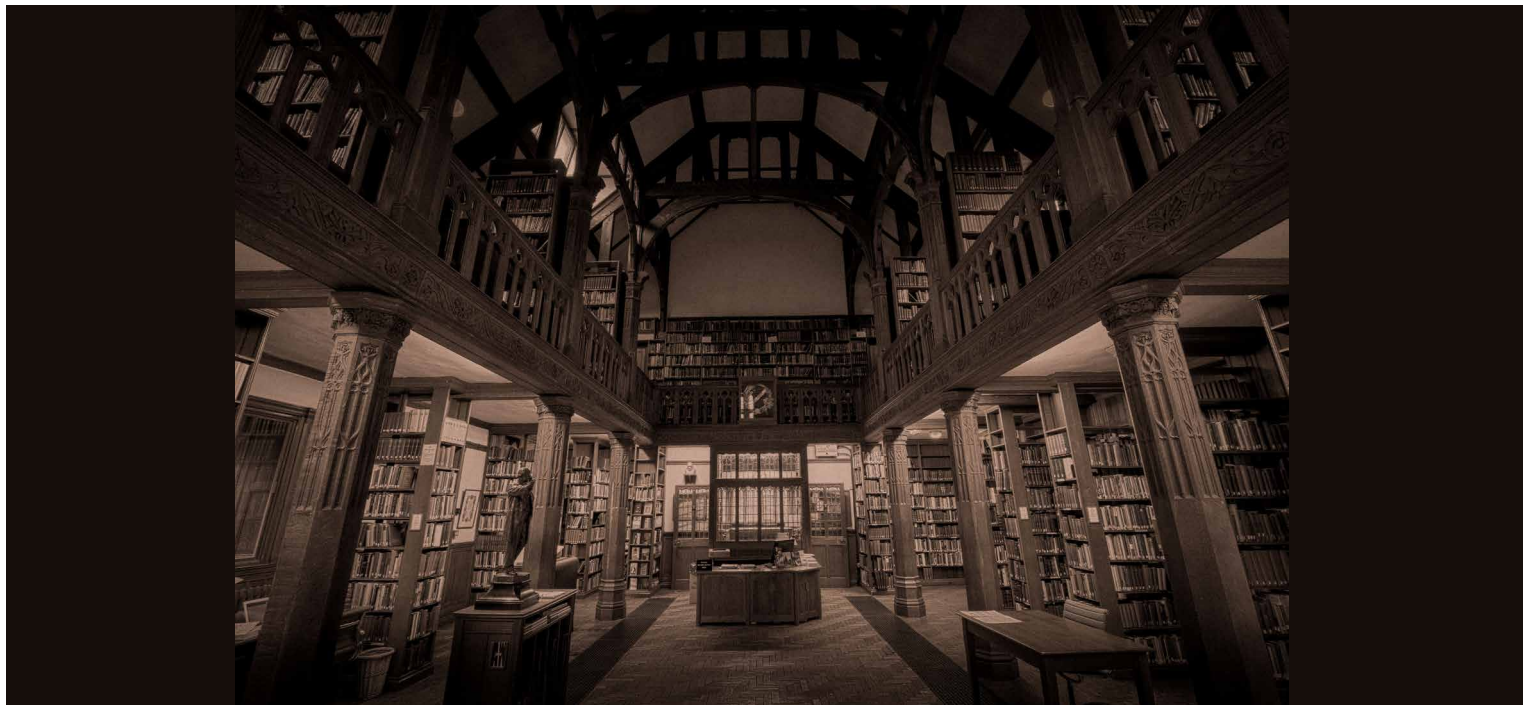
Join the following HNSA Facebook Groups for more information about events, including profiles about appearing authors:

Melbourne Chapter:

www.facebook.com/groups/242775092782782/

HNSA:

www.facebook.com/groups/HNSAustralasia/



Between Shelves by Hannah Van Diddon

There is a toenail on the carpet. I'm where the crime and general fiction sections intersect and there's a whole, ripped-off toenail between the shelves in front of me. Definitely a toenail. I can tell by its thickness, yellowed ridges, blooded edges that would have once upon a time gnarled into flesh.

So careless of a person to leave a piece of them behind like that! I wouldn't.

Aside from the littering and hygiene issues, you don't know who there is to come after you, who will use your cells—a criminal mastermind, an errant police officer. A witch, perhaps.

Maybe your toenail will form part of someone's doll and you end up with a twitch in the night, which is actually daytime their time because you are in Perth and they are in Buenos Aires now, and the doctor you go to calls it "a mild Tourette's" but really it's voodoo sorcery and neither of you grow aware of this, not when you suffer night sweats, and not when your death certificate reads "heart attack" even though the coroner has never seen a heart bleed out from such a diagnosis.

I can't just leave it there.

I pinch up your DNA in a handkerchief. I'll bury it at home, in the strawberry patch with last week's chicken bones. It could take years for the keratin to break down in the soil, but at least you will not be affected by an unknown magic.

Although, I can't help but wonder.

I wonder if it matters that you and your nail have been separated—I mean, for the purposes of the afterlife. It is an entire toenail, after all. If your toenail's buried here and you are somewhere else, does that matter in your faith? Do you believe in after? I'm not sure I do, but I am curious.

I've dabbled a little myself, in witchcraft and the like. I could try to find you, reunite you with your disconnected piece. I could scry—and maybe place an ad in the community news. You'd notice an ad like that, being the one to lose the nail.

So careless of you, it was.

Having visited my library, you would live close by. You could come to mine. I'd ask about the circumstances of your loss over tea.

No, I couldn't possibly post it! Ever since the change, I don't trust the postal service, not with precious things.

I'd make a special tea. It might smell strange, but that's the blend. It's old. I don't get many visitors, you see, and your arrival would be momentous—my first reunion of a toenail with its body—and, seeing as that part of you is dead, I'd have to help you there too. The hemlock in your cup should do it.

Then you would be in the strawberry patch, with your toenail and the chicken bones from last week's sacrifice, intact and ready for whatever's after. Be sure to tell me all about it.

HisTrivia: Melbourne and Victorian Retail 'Icons'

By Stephen Haby, Secretary Librarian

When we think of iconic retail stores and products; words such as George's, Myer and Arnott's Biscuits come to mind, either as fond memories of our childhood or products that we still cherish today.

However there are few brands and products out there that often get people thinking about how and why they started.

The Irrepressible Showmen: Stan Cash and Ken Bruce

The best known advertising showman was Franco Cozzo. The legendary furniture salesman set the bar for memorable advertising and catchphrases. He built a huge cult following with his cheap and cheery late night television advertisements extolling his wares in the wee small hours. He wasn't alone though...

Stan Cash

"Stan Cash the tin shed cowboy" was part of the catchy lyrics that accompanied the advertisements that played on television in the 1980s. Stan Raftis was the original owner of the business with Leo Wings – the latter eventually assumed control. At its largest there were 17 stores, mainly across the northern and western suburbs of Melbourne that employed around 300 staff. The business was sold as a going concern, but sadly for various reasons ceased operating.



Image © and TM

In 2012 the business recommenced with two stores (Brooklyn and Keilor) with the branding of the smiling cowboy and the hat still used to this day. YouTube has many examples of their advertising from the 1980s, which would probably not hold up today in our more culturally aware society.

Ken Bruce Discounts

Who can forget "Ken Bruce has gone mad... Ken Bruce has gone mad...". Another discount electrical and bulk retailer who had at least two stores – Chapel Street in Prahran and another in Dandenong. The business advertising policy was cheap and cheerful (not to mention memorable and annoying). Once again YouTube is a source to revisit those advertisements.

The Windsor store was located at 88 Chapel Street, now part of the Sacred Heart Mission op shop.

Bright pink – Middy's Data & Electrical



Image © Middendorp

Ever wondered about the backstory to the bright pink Middy's electrical stores and delivery vans? Dutch immigrant Petrus Middendorp settled in Melbourne intending to continue his trade as a cigar maker for the British American Tobacco Co. He soon left this industry and helped tending Australian casualties during World War One in Paris and Melbourne. Following the end of the War, Petrus sold Dutch manufactured light globes and other electrical products imported from Holland and England. In 1928 Middendorp Goods Supply Company was established in Flinders Lane, then McKillop Street and later at 148 Queen Street. In the 1940s the company began manufacturing various electrical components with Middendorp Electric Company Pty Ltd official registered in 1948. Due to inroads of plastic and injection moulding, Middendorp ceased manufacturing and focused on electrical wholesaling.

But what about the legendary pink colour? To facilitate deliveries the company purchased a former PMG van which, not surprisingly, was riddled with rust. Repairs involved the use of auto-paint primer which resulted in a very down at heels spotty look. Rather than attracting attention perhaps unfavourably it was decided to paint the entire van in the pink primer. Given that most vehicles on the road at the time were in more conservative and sombre paint schemes, Middendorp's bright pink van stood out on the streets of Melbourne.

In a brilliant marketing move the company adopted pink as its corporate colour scheme and in fact registered the (modified) pink as "Middy's Pink" with various paint manufacturers.

Legendary Products

Salada biscuits (don't forget the Sao!)



Image: (c) [Bycroft Boy](#) and made available under a [Attribution-NonCommercial 4.0 International](#)

Okay who admits to creating 'vegemite worms' by pressing two Salada biscuits together? Manufactured by the Brockhoff Biscuit Company who established their well known bakery in Burwood in the 1950s. Your intrepid Secretary Librarian made several visits to this plant during his high school years. On certain days with a south easterly breeze the aroma from the baking plant

would waft across to Box Hill. Brockoff was acquired by Arnott's in the 1960s to counter competition from North America, however the name was retained as was the distinctive blue Brockoff delivery trucks.

Sao's, made by Arnott's, were similar to Salada.

Big M flavoured milk

In the 1970s concerns were being expressed amongst Victorian dairy groups and government as to the decline in per capita milk consumption amongst young adults.

To make milk more appealing (and hopefully attract new markets) the Victorian Government established the Victorian Dairy Industry Authority in 1977, replacing the Victorian Milk Board. Flavoured milk was going to be the key to the success of increasing consumption. Interestingly flavoured milk had been available for years from individual dairies across the state but sales were poor. Considerable thought was given to a marketing campaign (designed by George Patterson) which ultimately focused on popular surfing culture. The result was a hit amongst consumers. Initial flavours offered were chocolate, strawberry and banana. Later came Iced Coffee. Over time many other flavours were tried to various degrees of success (anyone remember blueberry Big M?)

Today the flavoured milk market has segmented considerably, but Big M is still available and a favourite.

FAGS (now FADS) lollies

Manufactured by Riviera Confectionery in Victoria, these were first known as FAGS when introduced in 1943. They were designed to resemble a cigarette even down to the red tip. Following pressure on several fronts the product was renamed to FADS in the 1990s and in the early 2000s 'Fun Sticks' was added to the branding. The close resemblance to a cigarette was toned down.

Scorched Peanut Bar

Dating from the 1950s this product went through somewhat of a controversial phase in the 1980s with a suggestive television advertisement promoting it as 'the hard bar'. The original, manufactured by Mastercraft and later by Nestle, ceased production sometime in the 1990s.

Smurfs

The Smurfs, rather cute little blue goblins(?), began as a Belgian comic franchise created by artist, Peyo. Due to their popularity, they later expanded into film and TV.



Photograph © Steven Haby

The Smurf figurines were originally introduced in the late 50s, however in the 1970s they were marketed through BP service stations.

Like yo-yos and football cards they soon became collector items.

A collection of various Smurf characters (above) were found at the Chapel Street Bazaar.

Long Gone Petrol Retailers

Fina

Fina was relatively rare in Australia. Here is the Fina outlet in Camberwell, on Camberwell Road at the corner of Glen Iris Road.



Image: © Roderick B. Smith, 2007.

Solo

Solo was an independent fuel distributor and retailer established in the early 1970s by businessmen David Wierland and David Goldberger. It later established a relationship with the ACTU and then union leader Bob Hawke.

On The Road

Myer delivery vans

These vans were once a common scene on Melbourne's streets – in fact one can be seen in the iconic video of AC/DC's anthem 'It's a long way to the top'. Based on Bedford J1 truck chassis the bodywork was constructed by legendary builder Cheetham & Borwick of Carlton, which manufactured buses for several Melbourne operators including the M&MTB and Ryan Brothers of Essendon.



Image: A restored Myer van on a Bedford J1 chassis.
© George Galea

The PMI collection includes many books and material on famous Australian retailers and products from biscuits to bikes and toys to trifle.

New Books

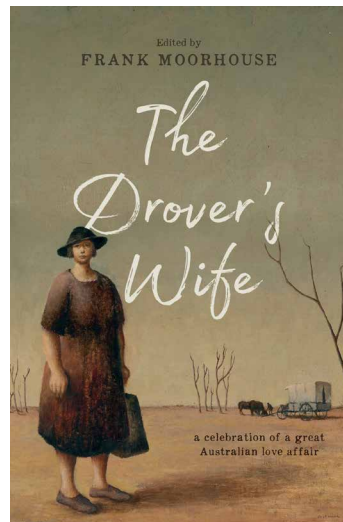
The Drover's Wife / Frank Moorhouse

Since Henry Lawson wrote his story 'The Drover's Wife' in 1892, Australian writers, painters, performers and photographers have created a wonderful tradition of drover's wife works, stories and images.

The Russell Drysdale painting from 1945 extended the mythology and it, too, has become an Australian icon.

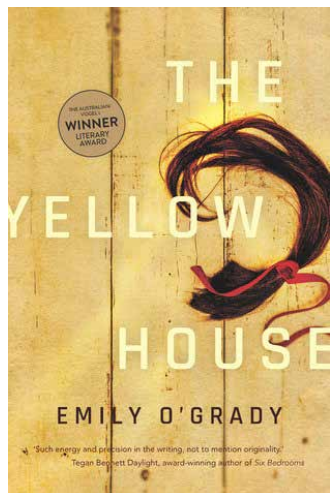
Other versions of the Lawson story have been written by Murray Bail, Barbara Jefferis, Mandy Sayer, David Ireland, Madeleine Watts and others, up to the present, including Leah Purcell's play and Ryan O'Neill's graphic novel.

In essays and commentary, Frank Moorhouse examines our ongoing fascination with this story and has collected some of the best pieces of writing on the subject. This remarkable, gorgeous book is, he writes, 'a monument to the drovers' wives'.



The Yellow House / Emily O'Grady

(Vogel Award winner 2018)



Even before I knew anything about Granddad Les, Wally and me sometimes dared each other to see how close to the knackery we could get. It was way out in the bottom paddock, and Dad had banned us from going further than the dam. Wally said it was because the whole paddock was haunted. He said he could see ghosts wisping in the grass like sheets blown from the washing line. But even then I knew for sure that was a lie.

Ten-year-old Cub lives with her parents, older brother Cassie, and twin brother Wally on a lonely property bordering an abandoned cattle farm and knackery. Their lives are shadowed by the infamous actions of her Granddad Les in his yellow weatherboard house, just over the fence.

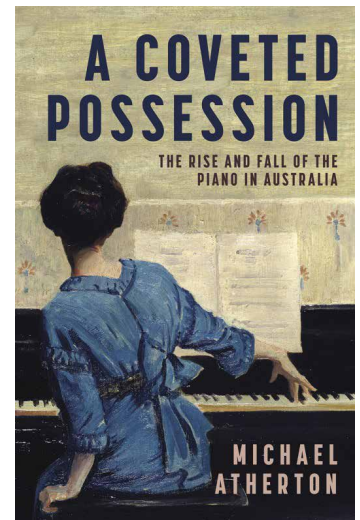
Although Les died twelve years ago, his notoriety has grown in Cub's lifetime and the local community have ostracised the whole family.

When Cub's estranged aunt Helena and cousin Tilly move next door into the yellow house, the secrets the family want to keep buried begin to bubble to the surface. And having been kept in the dark about her grandfather's crimes, Cub is now forced to come to terms with her family's murky history.

The Yellow House is a powerful novel about loyalty and betrayal; about the legacies of violence and the possibilities of redemption.

A Coveted Possession: The rise and fall of the piano in Australia / Michael Atherton

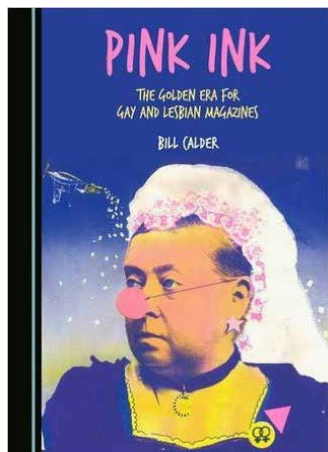
The piano has long enjoyed a special relationship with the people of Australia, as a visible and audible object in the nation's transition from a rough and fractious collection of colonies to a Commonwealth of Australia in 1901 a newly federated nation.



Pianos accompanied Australian people as they journeyed through diverse political, cultural, social and geographical landscapes, often turning up in the most surprising and far-flung places. The piano served the social bonds of family and community life before the invention of other technologies could do the same. It was at the centre of life in a rapidly urbanising Australia, before the benefits of electricity that led to the proliferation of the radio, the gramophone and the talking picture. Pianos and player pianos brought people together everywhere, people of different ages and backgrounds, to serve and interact with them. Pianos reached distant farmsteads, comforting and educating the lonely and isolated, which, in many cases, were women. The piano was there in times of peace at the movies, at weddings, dances and parties. And it was also there in times of war, even accompanying servicemen and women at the front in World War I and World War II, as well as the jungles of New Guinea and Vietnam. This invites a number of questions to be addressed in the thesis: How and why did the piano become Australia's most popular musical instrument? How did local manufacturers contribute to nationalism and pride? How did this instrument, ostensibly a machine developed in the industrial revolution, influence and change the lives of those interacting with it, and evolve in response to local conditions and needs?

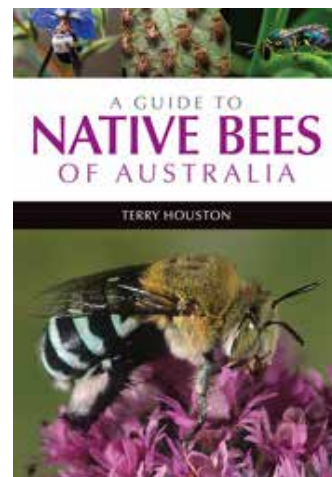
Pink Ink: The golden era for gay and lesbian magazines / Bill Calder

The tapping of typewriters first lifted the secrecy around homosexuality, and a vibrant array of voices was soon heard. The publishers of gay magazines and newspapers were a diverse and lively lot. Some wanted to publicise where the best parties were held; some to fight the political battle; and others to show new ways for lesbians and gay men to live their lives. The story of these magazines and newspapers is the story of society's changing attitudes, and indeed, the changing gay world. This book traces the evolution of Australia's gay and lesbian publications from smudgy porn sold in brown paper bags to glossy coffee-table magazines proudly on display; from gestetnered newsletters to an industry publishing millions of newspapers each year – that is, until the Internet changed it all.



A Guide to Native Bees of Australia

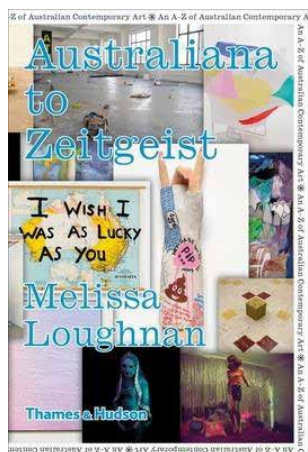
Bees are often thought of as yellow and black striped insects that live in hives and produce honey. However, Australia's abundant native bees are incredibly diverse in their appearance and habits. Some are yellow and black but others have blue stripes, are iridescent green or wasp-like. Some are social but most are solitary. Some do build nests with wax but others use silk or plant material, burrow in soil or use holes in wood and even gumnuts!



A Guide to Native Bees of Australia provides a detailed introduction to the estimated 2000 species of Australian bees. Illustrated with stunning photographs, it describes the form and function of bees, their life-cycle stages, nest architecture, sociality and relationships with plants. It also contains systematic accounts of the five families and 58 genera of Australian bees. Photomicrographs of morphological characters and identification keys allow identification of bees to genus level. Natural history enthusiasts, professional and amateur entomologists and beekeepers will find this an essential guide.

Coming Soon

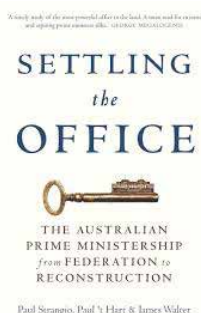
Australiana to Zeitgeist: An A-Z of contemporary Australian Art / Melissa Loughnan



Many critics have traditionally dismissed Australian art as derivative. Australiana to Zeitgeist offers an immersive look at a new breed of early career Australian artists proving them wrong. Championing underrepresented and often, unrepresented up-and-comers, it delves into the various themes shaping the Australian psyche and showcases not only contemporary artists, but artists who are making work that is new and relevant.

Settling the Office: The Australian Prime Ministership from federation to reconstruction / Paul Strangio

The prime ministership is indisputably the most closely observed and keenly contested office in Australia. How did it grow to become the pivot of national political power? Settling the Office chronicles the development of the prime ministership from its rudimentary early days following Federation through to the powerful, institutionalised prime-ministerial leadership of the postwar era.



Shell / Kristina Ollsson



A big, bold and hauntingly beautiful story that captures a defining moment in Australia's history.

Everywhere he looked he saw what Utzon saw. The drama of harbour and horizon, and at night, the star-clotted sky. It held the shape of the possible, of a promise made and waiting to be kept ...

In 1965 as Danish architect Jørn Utzon's striking vision for the Sydney Opera House transforms the skyline and unleashes a storm of controversy, the shadow of the Vietnam War and a deadly lottery threaten to tear the country apart.

Journalist Pearl Keogh, exiled to the women's pages after being photographed at an anti-war protest, is desperate to find her two missing brothers and save them from the draft. Axel Lindquist, a visionary young glass artist from Sweden, is obsessed with creating a unique work that will do justice to Utzon's towering masterpiece.

In this big, bold and hauntingly beautiful portrait of art and life, Shell captures a world on the brink of seismic change though the eyes of two unforgettable characters caught in the eye of the storm.

And reminds us why taking a side matters.



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:

- ▶ Dr Judith Buckrich (President)
- ▶ Cr Steve Stefanopoulos (Vice President & City of Stonnington representative)
- ▶ Mr Ben Quin, CPA (Treasurer)
- ▶ Cr John Chandler OAM
- ▶ Dr Michelle Negus Cleary
- ▶ Mr Chris Michalopoulos
- ▶ Mr Tim McKenna

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:



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.