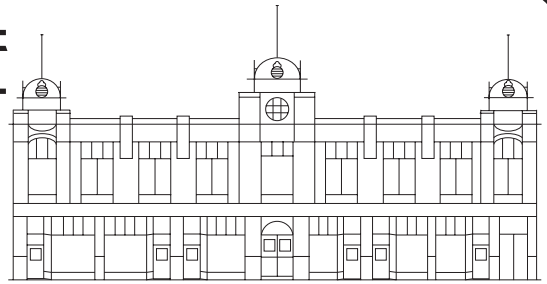


PRARRAN MECHANICS' INSTITUTE
VICTORIAN HISTORY LIBRARY

NEWSLETTER NO 61 - FEBRUARY 2009

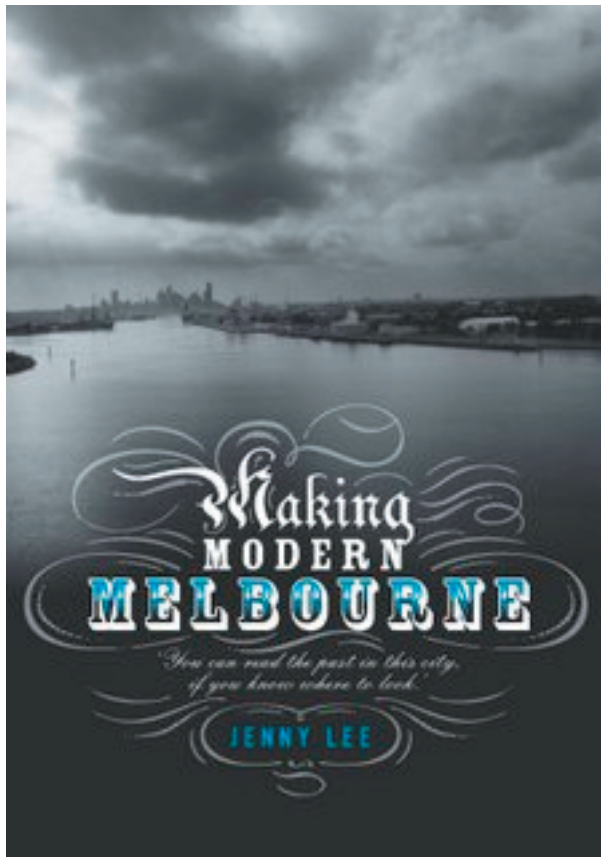
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www.pmi.net.au Open Mon-Fri 9.30am-4.30pm, Sat 9.30am-1.00pm Membership \$12, \$10 conc., \$30 inst.
Feedback / suggestions for this newsletter may be directed to writer / compiler Christine Worthington

Free Lecture

Jenny Lee: *Making Modern Melbourne*



We are delighted to present Jenny Lee who will conduct an illustrated lecture about her 2008 book *Making Modern Melbourne*.

Jenny is a well-known Melbourne editor and writer. She began her editing career working on a multi-author critical history of Australia, the 4 volume *A People's History of Australia*, published in 1988.

She edited the literary and cultural quarterly *Meanjin* from 1987 to 1994, and is a fellow at the University of Melbourne.

Making Modern Melbourne is described as 'a small revelation...' (Robyn Annear) and as 'a delicious, bite-sized piece of our history' (Slow Guides website)

6.30pm, Wednesday 4 March

Free entry - Seats are limited

Bookings are ESSENTIAL

Ph. 9510 3393 or email library@pmi.net.au

A reminder that the library will be closed on Labour Day, Monday 9 March
Please see page 3 for IMPORTANT INFORMATION regarding this newsletter...

This newsletter is sponsored by

Windsor Community Bank
111 Chapel Street, Windsor, VIC 3181
Ph 9510 9311



INSIDE

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Recent Acquisitions (p. 6-11)

AROUND THE LIBRARY



MEMBERS NEWS

Welcome to the following new members who joined during Nov-Jan:

Thank you to the following members who made financial donations to the library during Nov-Jan:

<i>Pam Baragwanath</i>	<i>Michael Macgeorge</i>
<i>Roger Beeston</i>	<i>Janina Maciulis</i>
<i>Boundy family</i>	<i>Ian & Jennifer Matthews</i>
<i>Clive Brookes</i>	<i>Roland McCausland</i>
<i>Tom Bryans</i>	<i>Kristin Otto</i>
<i>Judith Buckrich</i>	<i>John Payne</i>
<i>Mary-Ann Cohn</i>	<i>Cecile Rees</i>
<i>Philippe De Gail</i>	<i>Keith Rogers</i>
<i>Jim Ellwood</i>	<i>Mary Russell</i>
<i>Deirdre Farfor</i>	<i>Barrie & Margaret Stevens</i>
<i>Gnaire Foster</i>	<i>Philippa Strang</i>
<i>Pat Grainger</i>	<i>George and Maureen Swinburne</i>
<i>Peter Isaacson</i>	<i>Ron Thomas</i>
<i>Reuben Lazarus</i>	<i>Frank Van Straten</i>
<i>Alf Lazer</i>	<i>Judith Vun</i>
<i>Jadzia Lemieszek</i>	

GENERAL NEWS

Staff & Committee

After 9 months maternity leave, Christine will return as Promotions Librarian on a part-time basis, working Thursday, Friday and Saturday. Tim and Ursula will continue as acting Secretary Librarian and Library Technician respectively. Tim will continue working Monday to Friday and Ursula will be working Monday to Wednesday. Dr Judith Buckrich will finish as Acting Promotions Librarian, but will continue her involvement with the PMI as historian.

With the retirement of Chris Gahan, Cr Claude Ullin, Mayor of Stonnington rejoins the PMI Committee as Stonnington representative. We are grateful to Claude for taking on the role, on top of his considerable mayoral duties.

Farewell & Thank You Chris Gahan

After 34 years as a Prahran (now Stonnington) Councillor, Chris Gahan retired at the end of 2008. A lifetime Prahran resident, Chris's father George served on Prahran Council for 18 years. Chris has been a champion of education in the area supporting schools in Prahran through good and bad times and ensuring the support of council. He was on the PMI

committee for several years from 1966 and rejoined in 2002 as the City of Stonnington appointee. Chris is married with four children and two grand children. He was employed as a municipal employee, school teacher, Animal Health/Disease Control Officer and Prosecutor for the Department of Agriculture. As Councillor he participated in or supported the Grattan Gardens Community Centre, Gawith Villa, Stonnington Primary School, South Central Region Migrant Resource Centre and New Hope Foundation, Prahran Community House, South East Waste Management Group, 2nd Prahran Scout Group, Chapel Off Chapel Advisory Committee and Stonnington St John Ambulance as well as the Prahran Mechanics Institute.

His experience in local government has been invaluable for the PMI in recent years. We will miss his unvarying support, his humour and his warmth. We wish him well in his future endeavours. *Dr Judith Buckrich*



Chris Gahan

PMI Historic Doors

There exists a set of beautiful old doors that were originally the front doors to the PMI library when it was situated further back in the PMI building. The doors are made of wood with glass panels embossed with 'Mechanics' Institute Library' on them. When the library was moved to the front of the building in the 1970s the doors were put in storage. When Swinburne did renovations to the building and created the kitchens, the doors for some reason were used as the doors to the kitchen area. Kitchen staff were pushing through the doors with trolleys causing damage to the doors. Our President Alf Lazer, and our Committee, became concerned and asked David Crossley, Facilities and Services Supervisor at Swinburne to remove the doors and repair any damage. David kindly arranged for Cefai Carpentry to restore the doors with great care and professionalism, a process that cost a considerable amount and was paid for by Swinburne. David is now storing the doors for us until we have more space in the library. Thank you David for your concern and care of our historic doors.

Shinkfield Awards 2008

Congratulations to the following students:
Marcus Chen (Toorak Primary School)
Bethany Hoomeyer (Victorian College for the Deaf)
Sarah Peterson (Armada Primary)
Odilia Kartadinata (Malvern Primary)
Charley Longstaff (South Yarra Primary)
Elli Krohn (Stonnington Primary)

Correction re drawers for microfilms

In our October newsletter we neglected to mention that the drawers that were donated to us to hold the newspaper microfilms were half donated by Stonnington History Centre and half by Prahran Historical and Arts Society. Also that the transport costs were paid for by Prahran Historical and Arts Society. Thank you to the society and also apologies for any misunderstanding. Thank you also to Stonnington History Centre for their part of the donation.

Cinema & Theatre Historical Society

CATHS members have done a great job in dressing up their window at the front of the library. Have a look at the end window next time you visit.

Mechanics' Institutes of Victoria

The Mechanics' Institute Resource Centre (MIRC) at the PMI Library has recently had a significance assessment completed by historian Claire Sandell. Her findings included the following comment: 'The volume and diversity of Material contained in the 'Big Mech' and 'Pete's Pedia' [now called MI-SER] is testimony to the vibrancy of networking, and success of the role of the MIRC in fostering the preservation of MI heritage. The Mechanics' Institute Resources Collection occupies a unique position in facilitating the protection and communication of Victoria's Mechanics' Institute history'.

VOLUNTEERS Q&A

As I return from my leave and resume my volunteer coordinator duties, I would like to thank all the volunteers who maintained their volunteering duties and continue to contribute so much to the PMI. Thanks to Catherine Tully who contributed nearly 70 hours of book covering before moving to Queensland late last year.

While on my leave I prepared the certificates of appreciation which were presented at the library on International Volunteers Day in December (and subsequently mailed out to those not present). While preparing the certificates, which noted all the individual contributions made by individual volunteers, I was again astounded at the generosity of those members who have taken so much time and care with their indexing and book covering and have pitched in to help with pamphlet delivery and newsletter mailout duties.

I look forward to working alongside our volunteers again and look forward to hearing from any further PMI members interested in volunteering for the PMI in 2009.

Christine Worthington

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IMPORTANT INFORMATION

REGARDING THIS NEWSLETTER

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This year the newsletter will be produced quarterly rather than bi-monthly (in February, May, August and November).

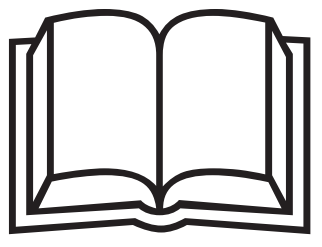
You will notice a few new features as we try out new ideas to make the newsletter more interesting for our members. A new 'Books Etcetera' section will appear in the newsletter and will include: notable new non-fiction books, recent fiction, book reviews, book indexes completed by volunteers and book donors list. If you have any ideas about how to improve the newsletter let us know, and we will certainly consider them.

As of next issue the Recent Acquisitions section will be published separately to the newsletter, and will not automatically be posted with the newsletter.

If you wish to have the full list posted with each newsletter simply phone us on 9510 3393 or email library@pmi.net.au and we will add you to the list of recipients.

Those who receive the newsletter by email will also continue to receive the full list. If you would like to receive the newsletter by email, please let us know.

BOOKS
ETCETERA



Notable new non-fiction in library:

Radio days: Australian bakelite radios / Peter Sheridan and Ritchie Singer.

If you enjoy art deco or beautiful objects then you will love this book as it is full of stunning photographs of bakelite radios from the nineteen thirties, forties and fifties.

Member Elaine Herbert has presented us with a copy of **Walter Woodbury: a Victorian study**. A book by the Royal Photographic Society to which she was a contributor. It is a beautifully presented and detailed study of this 19th century photographer.

Art of Australia volume 1: exploration to Federation / John McDonald hbk 656 p.

From cover: In this opening volume of a brilliant new history of Australian art, John McDonald takes us from the times of pre-history, settlement and exploration, to the end of the colonial era. *Art of Australia* is the first comprehensive overview of the field since the 1960s, as McDonald reassesses the reputations of many leading artists, and links their achievements with the broader patterns of social history and ideas. Along with in-depth discussions of major works, the narrative teems with characters and anecdotes, from the era of the first fleet to that of the Australian impressionists. *Art of Australia* tells the story of Australian art in a more vivid and engaging style than ever before, in a lavishly illustrated book destined to take its place as the definitive work on the subject. *Christine Worthington*

Stella Miles Franklin / Jill Roe Fourth Estate 2008

Michael Williams writing in *The Age* says 'The Miles Franklin who emerges in these pages is a formidable and singular figure, and one clearly worthy of being not just remembered, but also celebrated'.

Recent Fiction:

The good mayor / Andrew Nicoll pbk 465 p.

From cover: Set in the little town of Dot in a forgotten part of the Baltic, this is the story of Tibo Krovic, the good and honest mayor of Dot, and his love for his secretary, the beautiful, lonely but married Mrs Agathe Stopak. It is a novel of love, loss, magic, friendship, wonderful food, a brass band, an Italian witch, a large lawyer, an occasional dog and a car chase that takes place at walking pace.

Book Reviews:

The Costello memoirs : the age of prosperity / Peter Costello with Peter Coleman.

I found the book interesting as it put into perspective the political events and achievements of the past decade. It also gave me some understanding of Peter Costello's actions and motivations which I have found puzzling in the past. His relationship with Howard and the struggle over the leadership were the most interesting aspects of the book. The authors have a clear, easy to read style and the book isn't too long or detailed so it can be read in a few hours.

Reviewed by Tim McKenna.

A terrific read **And be home before dark: A childhood on the edge of nowhere** is Melbourne personality, Roland Rocchiccioli's childhood memoir. Rocchiccioli spent his first 11 years in and around the West Australian gold town of Gwalia. The extraordinary detail of everyday life and the starkness and fragility of a child's existence in the isolated region makes for excellent reading for anyone with an interest in Australia's recent social history. What is perhaps surprising is the shared experience with all children of the 1950s. Despite a completely different upbringing in Melbourne, I was able to identify with much of Roland's struggle to find outlets for his keen curiosity and also his ability to amuse himself.

There are very painful episodes of neglect and abuse – and Rocchiccioli is as honest and clear about these as he is about the positive and rich tapestry of his childhood. In fact his even-handedness in writing about the most terrifying and the most ordinary is remarkable.

What is perhaps most significant is that Rocchiccioli emerged as an adult whose life

embraced many careers; dancing, acting and directing for stage, presenting on radio and television, as well as writing.

Reviewed by Dr Judith Buckrich

The Australian game of football since 1858 / edited by Geoff Slattery.

This large, profusely illustrated and beautifully designed book was published in 2008 to mark the 150th anniversary of Australian Rules Football.

Every aspect of the game and the league is covered here, including early history, evolution of the game, nationalisation, player profiles and media. Most interesting is the social history contained within - of the relationship of the game to the Victorian community and beyond, the impact of war, the commercial and business side of the game and the changing player lifestyles since the early days.

Every Aussie Rules fan will find plenty of interest in this massive history.

Christine Worthington

Genealogical Resources: Ralph Reid's Family Histories Indexes

While genealogists thrill to the excitement of finding gems in their original research, much original research can feel like very hard work. It can be a big help to find that someone has already published a history of a branch of your family. Finding information on your family published on the web can take minutes to find, but how would you find information on your family that had been published in a book?

If you are a genealogist unfamiliar with Ralph Reid's wonderful work, his publications are worth a look. He first produced *Australian Family Histories* in 2004 and the PMI holds the 3rd edition (2007) and a CD version (2005). Last year Reid created separate indexes for families in each of the states, with the intention that these will be updated every two years. No doubt as genealogy has become such a popular pursuit, more and more publications about individual families are produced every year making new editions to Reid's indexes a must. His index entries are filed by surname, and each entry includes the surname, some small details of the origins of the family (so you can establish if this is your family), and details of the book including the title, author, publication details, description and ISBN. There may be multiple entries for one book, under each of the main family names. A legend for his abbreviations and codes are given at the bottom of every page, so you don't have to keep flicking back which is very helpful.

Before you plunge into much time-consuming research it could be a worthwhile exercise to check Reid's indexes to find out if someone, somewhere has already invented your wheel. If so, you can then spend your energy verifying their information and building upon the existing research.

Family history publications can be difficult to track down because they are most often only printed in small numbers for distribution amongst family members. The State Library will often get one copy, as will perhaps the local and state genealogical societies. Libraries Australia can cut down much of the legwork associated with tracking down a publicly accessible book.

Reid is to be commended for the painstaking work which he has obviously put into this project over the years and for this latest round of publications which are clear and easy to use.

Christine Worthington

Book Indexes

Thank you to our volunteers for indexing the following books in the PMI collection:

David Allen: *The artists of Kew ; Lovely old homes of Kew*

Kathrine Farn: *Across the slate: Prahran's schools 1850s-1985 ; A short historical sketch of East Brighton and district*

Helen Kiddell: *A short history of South Gippsland*

Philip Knight: *Discovering the North East ; Bygone days of Back Creek*

Eric Steele: *Richard Bennett's early days of Port Fairy*

Ron Thomas: *Before you came: mines, myths and memories of Diamond Creek*

Judy Thomas: *Prahran centenary celebrations 24th April-7th May 1955 souvenir guide 100 years of progress*

If you would like to write a short review of a book from our collection for the newsletter, please contact us on 9510 3393 or email library@pmi.net.au

HISTORY HAPPENINGS



In metropolitan Melbourne:

National Archives of Australia at the Public Record Office of Victoria

25th Feb 10am-4pm: Free Seminar: *Shaking Your Family Tree* including talks, demonstrations and introductory research training. *Bookings: phone (03) 9348 5600 Inquiries: email ross.latham@naa.gov.au*

Brighton Cemetery Brighton Cemeterians

26th April ANZAC Walk - 2pm
17th May 'Upholding the Law' Walk - 2pm
For more details ring Lois on 9558 4248

Fishermens Bend Sunday May 17th Walk and talk / Janet Bolitho. Bookings essential. Email walking@portphillip.vic.gov.au or ring 9209 6522

Fitzroy Tuesday 3rd March 7pm: Fitzroy – eastern walk: George St, Gore St, Fitzroy History Society email fitzroyhistorysociety@yahoo.com

Fitzroy Thursday 30 April 7pm: Reflections of Fitzroy Edinburgh Gardens Community Room. Join some of the authors of the book 'Reflections of Fitzroy'.

Fitzroy History Society email fitzroyhistorysociety@yahoo.com

Kew Saturday 14th March 2009. Boroondara (Kew) Cemeteries 150th anniversary celebrations. Come along at 1.00 pm to the cemetery and join in all the activities. No bookings necessary. Friends of Boroondara (Kew) Cemetery Inc. www.fobkc.org.au

Middle Park Sunday March 15th 10-12 Walk and talk: Middle Park. Bookings essential. Email walking@portphillip.vic.gov.au or ring 9209 6522

Port Melbourne Monday March 23rd Story behind St John's Ambulance / Allen Mawdsley. Bookings essential. Port Melbourne Historical Society email pmhps@hotmail.com

St Kilda Sunday April 19th 10-12 Walk and talk: Historic sporting venues of St Kilda / Meyer Eidelson. Bookings essential. Email walking@portphillip.vic.gov.au or ring 9209 6522

In regional Victoria:

Castlemaine Sunday 19th April: Open house day: an opportunity for the public to visit a number of significant Castlemaine residences. Email: chsi@castlemainehistoricalsociety.com

Piggoreet to Grand Trunk Sunday April 19th walking trail \$10 per head see: *Woody Yaloak newsletter Jan 2009 p7.*

If your society would like a history-related event to be mentioned in this section in future, please send an email to library@pmi.net.au with the subject line 'History Happenings'

RECENT ACQUISITIONS

Victoria Victorian family histories / compiled by Ralph Reid 2008

Back Creek Index to G.F. Craig's 'Bygone days of Back Creek' / Philip Knight

Bairnsdale Bairnsdale "the way we were" / Jan Davidson ; stories by Heather Smith 1984 [*donated by Anne Bobeff*]

Barmah Forest The Barmah Forest in our blood: 150 years of family history from the people who have lived, worked and played in the beautiful Barmah Forest / Nerelie Teese and Leigh Wright 2008

Beechworth Background to Beechworth 1852-1952 / compiled by Roy C. Harvey [*donated by William R. Power*]

Bendigo Excellence of ware : Bendigo Pottery majolica 1879-1911 / Gregory Hill 2008 [*donated by Tim McKenna*]

Birregurra Birregurra by the Barwon 1982

Turkeith Farm journals: an introduction / Birregurra District Historical Centre 2007

Brighton East Index to H.A. Cheeseman's 'A short historical sketch of East Brighton and district' / Kathrine Farn

Cardinia Shire Cardinia Shire heritage study 1996 and 1998 [CD-ROM] [*donated by Shire of Cardinia*]

Cardinia Shire heritage study review 2007 [CD-ROM] [*donated by Shire of Cardinia*]

City of Port Phillip Walks in Port Phillip: a guide to the cultural landscapes of a city / Meyer Eidelson 2001 [*donated by Robin Grow*]

Colac For Love They Faced the Wilderness: the story of the pastoral history of the Colac district vol.1 / Donald W.H. McCready 2008

Dennington Dennington Cricket Club : history of the club from the known beginning in 1937 to the current day 2007

RECENT ACQUISITIONS (November-January)

- Diamond Creek Index to John L. Ryan's 'Before you came: mines, myths and memories of Diamond Creek' / Ron Thomas
- Fitzroy Reflections of Fitzroy / FitzRovians 2008
- Geelong Early stonemasonry in Geelong : the works of Nathaniel Brown / Nola McDonald & Robyn Doble 2008
- Geelong police deposition book 1839-1841 [microfiche] (reference)
- South Geelong Police Charge Book 1854-1868 [microfiche] : index to VPRS 1007/1 at VPRO / Lorraine Phelan 1999 (reference)
- Geelong Eastern Cemetery, Roman Catholic section [microfiche] / prepared by Geelong Family History Group, 1991 (reference)
- Eastern Cemetery Geelong [microfiche] : Protestant headstone transcriptions / Mary Kelly, Evelyn Madden, Lorraine Phelan (reference)
- Celebrating the history of sport in Geelong & district to the 1920's / compiled by Rod Charles 2007
- Wild and wondrous women of Geelong vol.3 / by Pam Jennings 2007
- Bullockies, draymen & horsemen of early Geelong vol.2 1860-1879 / edited by Elaine Kranjc, Pam Jennings 2005
- On the wings of death : inquests held for Geelong & district vol. 3, 1860-1869 / compiled [i.e. compiled] by Elaine Kranjc and Pam Jennings 2005
- No man lives forever: inquests held for Geelong and district vol.4 1870-1879 / compiled by Elaine Kranjc and Pam Jennings 2007
- Innovation and enterprise : a history of Backwell IXL, 1858-2008 / G.A. McLean 2008
- Gippsland More colourful tales of old Gippsland / John Wells 1984 [donated by Anne Bobeff]
- Index to Harold J. Malone's 'A short history of South Gippsland' / Helen Kiddell
- Golden Plains Shire Cemeteries of the southern Golden Plains Shire [CD-ROM] 2006 (includes Bannockburn, Golf Hill Station, Inverleigh, Lethbridge, Meredith, Rokewood, Shelford, Steiglitz, Teesdale Cemeteries)
- Grampians 50 walks in the Grampians / Tyrone T. Thomas 1977 [donated by Mary-Louise Phillips]
- Hattah Lakes Hattah : An Oral History of the Hattah Lakes 2008 [donated by Mallee Catchment Management Authority]
- Heidelberg Proper care : Heidelberg Repatriation Hospital 1940s-1990s / Gwynedd Hunter-Payne 1994
- Highton Steadfast through change : a history of the Wesleyan - Methodist - Uniting Church in Highton 1853 to 2006 / Marion Leigh Stainsby, Joan A. Smith, Jean Williams 2008
- Horsham A history of the Horsham Agricultural Society : a hundred Horsham shows / Ian Maroske 1978 [donated by Fay McAliece]
- Kew Index to Elizabeth Mackie's 'The artists of Kew' / David Allen
- Index to Dorothy Rogers' 'Lovely old homes of Kew' / David Allen
- Langwarrin Langwarrin settlers and soldiers / Dot Morrison 2008
- Longford Swing Bridge: story of the swing bridge / Peter Synan 2006 [donated by Anne Bobeff]
- Maribyrnong Maribyrnong River heritage trail / text preparation by Jill Barnard 2008 [donated by Dr Judith Buckrich]
- Maryborough Maryborough Gaol 1861-1902: a reconstruction of the records / Bruce Osborn 2004 [donated by Robin Grow]
- Melbourne Winners of the Melbourne Cup : stories that stopped a nation / Costa Rolfe 2008
- Melbourne on the Yarra / Marjorie Tipping 1977 [donated by Robin Grow]
- A journey through Melbourne's east 2008 [donated by Robin Grow]
- Walking Melbourne : the National Trust guide to the historic and architectural landmarks of central Melbourne / Rohan Storey 2004 [donated by Diane Nicholas]
- UNESCO city of literature: Melbourne [donated by Victorian Government]
- Merrigum Merrigum Methodist / Uniting Church 1908-2008: centenary 9-10 August 2008 / compiled by Anne Tyson [donated by Geoff Anderson]
- Minyip Minyip heritage plaques / Minyip and District Historical Society 2008 [donated by Minyip and District Historical Society]
- Moonambel The invisible thread : the story of Moonambel / Merri Hogan ; editor, Noreen McAdam 2008
- Mornington Peninsula No rugged landscape / Mary Karney 1991 [donated by Diane Nicholas]
- Mortlake 150 years of public schooling in Mortlake 1858-2008 / researched and compiled by Glenda Lehmann and Craige Proctor [donated by Mortlake College]
- Mount Alexander Shire Miners cottages of the goldfields of Mount Alexander 2007
- Mount Eccles The potato village: Mount Eccles near Macarthur / Beverley M. Ross 2008
- Nathalia Nathalia Holy Trinity Anglican Church: 100 years of strawberry fetes and festivals 1908-2008 / compiled by Beverley Leaf and Judy Ormond
- Newport Through their eyes sharply : cultural mission of the Sisters of St Joseph / Aileen M. Farquer 2008
- North East Index to Graham Jones' 'Discovering the North East' / Philip Knight
- Northcote Northcote Pottery : a story of survival and prosperity over 110 years / Laura Donati 2008
- Pennyroyal Farming the foothills : Pennyroyal, Murroon, Barwon Downs & Gerangamete 2008
- Polwarth Polwarth Tennis Association 1937-87: golden jubilee
- Port Fairy Index to Richard Bennett's 'Early days of Port Fairy' / Eric Steele
- Port Melbourne A different breed : a history of the Port Melbourne Football Club. Volume 3, 1945-1995 / Terry Keenan 2008
- My time at engine works / Glen Stuart 2008? [donated by Port Melbourne Historical Society]
- Historic Port Melbourne: images from the borough: a calendar for 2009 [donated by Port Melbourne Historical Society]

- Prahran Proclaiming the gospel: Anglicans in Prahran 1854-2004 / Graham and Margaret Bride [donated by Wilma Farrow]
- Index to Jane Chatham's 'Across the slate: Prahran's schools 1850s-1985' / Kathrine Farn
- Index to 'Prahran centenary celebrations 24th April-7th May 1955 souvenir guide: 100 years of progress' / Judy Thomas
- Ringwood East Recollections of Ringwood East by some residents of Ringwood East / Ringwood and District Historical Society 2008
- Sale Gippsland's lucky city: a history of Sale / Peter Synan 1994 [donated by Anne Bobeff]
- Two turrets and a dome: a history of the Gippsland Base Hospital 1860s to 1980s / Ann Andrew and Ann Edwards [donated by Anne Bobeff]
- Seymour A great school : 150 years at School no. 547 : Seymour 1857-2007 / by John G. and Virginia Jennings [donated by Seymour and District Historical Society]
- Shire of Loddon Loddon planning scheme: schedule to the heritage overlay 2008 [donated by George Swinburne]
- St Leonards Putting Batman and Buckley on the map of St. Leonards : the story of early contact and settlement at St. Leonards, Victoria / Peter M. Munster 2004
- Steiglitz Steiglitz : memories of gold / Ray Sumner 1982 [donated by Diane Nicholas]
- Swan Hill Swan Hill / Arthur Feldtmann 1973 [donated by Fay McAliece]
- Tarnagulla Tarnagulla Cemetery: index of names / compiled by Pat and Ian Belmont 2009 [donated by George Swinburne]
- Tarraville Discover historic Tarraville 1996 [donated by John Payne]
- Western Port Creeks and harbours of Western Port / by Richard Hawkins ; with a section on Common birds of Western Port by Val Curtis 1983 [donated by Joan Ward]
- Seal Rocks and Victoria's primitive beginnings / Ruth Gooch 2008
- Wimmera Wimmera: a regional history / Les Blake [donated by Fay McAliece]
- Yarram Twenty-eighth South Gippsland Eisteddfod, Regent Theatre, Yarram: bicentennial theme bushland scenes [donated by Anne Bobeff]
- Northern Territory Travel Up the track / Douglas Lockwood 1964 [donated by Wilma Farrow]
- My dreaming is the Christmas bird : the story of Irene Jimmy / as told to Sarah Fitzherbert with photographs by Howard Birnstihl 1989 [donated by Ursula Zamecnik]
- New South Wales New South Wales family histories / compiled by Ralph Reid 2008
- Botany Bay sketchbook / text by Valmai Phillips ; drawings by Allan Gamble 1977 [donated by Tim McKenna]
- Newcastle Synagogue 70th anniversary & Newcastle Bicentennial 1997 / text by L.E. Fredman [donated by Robin Grow]
- Early days of Port Stephens : extracts from the diary of Sir Edward Parry 1952 [donated by Wilma Farrow]
- Theatre comes to Australia / Eric Irvin 1971 [donated by John Simkin]
- Queensland Queensland family histories / compiled by Ralph Reid 2008
- Gold Coast sketchbook / drawings by Mike Nicholas ; text by Sir Bruce Small 1981 [donated by Tim McKenna]
- Ipswich sketchbook / text by Angela Burger ; drawings by Rick Everingham 1976 [donated by Tim McKenna]
- South Australia South Australian family histories / compiled by Ralph Reid 2008
- South Australiana journal vol. 4 no. 1 March 1965 [donated by Mary-Louise Phillips]
- Tasmania Tasmanian family histories / compiled by Ralph Reid 2008
- Ghost stories of Richmond, Tasmania / Granny Jones 1993? [donated by Wilma Farrow]
- Western Australia Western Australian family histories / compiled by Ralph Reid 2008
- Golden footsteps : a promotion from Boulder's Hidden Secrets 1995 [donated by Stonnington Libraries]
- Biography
- Nene [Nene King, Editor] / by Peter FitzSimmons 2002 [donated by Ursula Zamecnik]
- Anna's journey [Anna Bage]: a British lady in West Africa and colonial Australia / Dawn Peel 2008
- Do 30, Dad! : sketches of a 1930s childhood at Mansfield and Geelong Grammar School / by Bill Lester 1999 [donated by Mary-Louise Phillips]
- Nobody's valentine : letters in the life of Valentine Alexa Leeper, 1900-2001 / Marion Poynter 2008
- Who's who in Australia editions 1996-1999, 2002-2005 [donated by Joan Ward]
- Who's who of Australian women 2006 edition [donated by Joan Ward]
- Who's who in Australasia and the Far East 1st ed. 1989 [donated by Joan Ward]
- Who's who in Australasia and the Far East 2nd ed. 1991-1992 [donated by Joan Ward]
- Debrett's handbook of Australia and New Zealand 1st ed. 1982 [donated by Joan Ward]
- Debrett's handbook of Australia and New Zealand 5th ed. 1991 [donated by Joan Ward]
- Encyclopedia of Australian art 2nd ed. 1984 (2 vols) / Alan McCulloch [donated by Joan Ward]
- The vision of Who's who - business & life quotations : from notable Australians / edited by Margaret Herd 2005 [donated by Joan Ward]
- Minister of the crown : a personal story of life, politics and people / Vernon Wilcox 2001 [donated by Joan Ward]
- Hayden, an autobiography / Bill Hayden 1996 [donated by Joan Ward]
- Rupert Murdoch / Jerome Tuccille 1989 [donated by Joan Ward]
- Sir William Deane : the things that matter / Tony Stephens 2002 [donated by Joan Ward]
- Bob Ansett, an autobiography / with Robert Pullan 1986 [donated by Joan Ward]
- No ordinary lives : pioneering women in Australian politics / Cathy Jenkins 2008

RECENT ACQUISITIONS (November-January)

Arthur Streeton of Longacres : a life in the landscape / Volkhard Wehner 2008
Doug Nicholls : champion for dignity / written by Sandra Fitzpatrick 1997 [donated by Margaret Dunne]
Surgeon and general : a life of Major-General Rupert Downes, 1885-1945 / Ian Howie-Willis 2008
Ordinary heroes / edited by Barry Dickins 1999 [donated by Ursula Zamecnik]
Walter Woodbury : a Victorian study / The Royal Photographic Society, Victorian Chapter 2008 [donated by Elaine Herbert, on behalf of the History Group of the Victorian Chapter of the Royal Photographic Society]
Dear Fatty / Dawn French 2008
An Australian son / Gordon Matthews 1996 [donated by Mary-Louise Phillips]
Afternoon light: some memories of men and events / Sir Robert Menzies 1967 [donated by Shirley Chapple]
Run-digger : Bill Lawry : his own story / edited by Phil Tressider 1966 [donated by Shirley Chapple]
Ruth Cracknell : a biased memoir / Ruth Cracknell 1997 [donated by Shirley Chapple]
Shadow of doubt : my father and myself / Richard Freadman 2003 [donated by John Simkin]
A love affair with Australian literature : the story of Tom Inglis Moore / Pacita Alexander and Elizabeth Perkins 2004 [donated by John Simkin]
And be home before dark : a childhood on the edge of nowhere / Roland Rocchiccioli 2008
Stella Miles Franklin / Jill Roe 2008
Manning Clark : a life / Brian Matthews 2008
Still a Gypsy / by Toni Lamond 2002 [donated by Margaret Dunne]
Bring a plate to the Mortdale Scout Hall : the autobiography of a fat tart complete with recipes / Su Cruickshank 1992 [donated by Margaret Dunne]
Preserving the past, enriching the future : Hugh Williamson's legacy / curated by David Hurlston 2008 [donated by Ursula Zamecnik]
Jack Lockett: transcript of interview / Ina Bertrand 2000 [donated by George Swinburne]
The other side of sunset / Campbell Curtis 2008 [donated by Marigold Curtis]
The real John Wren / Hugh Buggy 1986 [donated by Wilma Farrow]
George Robertson of Melbourne: 1825-1898: pioneer bookseller and publisher / John Holroyd 1968 [donated by Wilma Farrow]
Evans: the wireless - scrapbook / Pat McPherson 1986 [donated by Wilma Farrow]
A woman of independence : a story of love and the birth of a new nation / Kirsty Sword Gusmao 2003 [donated by Wilma Farrow]
Minefields and miniskirts : Australian women and the Vietnam War / Siobhan McHugh 2005 [donated by Wilma Farrow]
The naked truth : a life in parts / Graeme Blundell 2008
The women were there: nineteen women who enlivened Australia's history / Nance Donkin [donated by Mary-Louise Phillips]
Memories of my father / compiled by Margaret Gee 1993 [donated by Mary-Louise Phillips]
John Howard and the conservative tradition / Norman Abjorensen 2008
J.A. Lyons, the tame Tasmanian : appeasement and rearmament in Australia, 1932-39 / David S. Bird 2008
In the land of invisible women: a female doctor's journey in the Saudi Kingdom / Qanta A. Ahmed 2008

Fiction

The brass verdict / Michael Connelly 2008
The slap / Christos Tsiolkas 2008
The islands / Di Morrissey 2008
The paper moon / Andrea Camillleri 2008
Deadly intent / Lynda La Plante 2008
Black lightning / Dymphna Cusack 1964 [donated by Margaret Dunne]
Picnic races / Dymphna Cusack 1963 [donated by Margaret Dunne]
Goodbye to romance : stories by Australian and New Zealand women, 1930s-1980s / edited by Elizabeth Webby and Lydia Wevers 1989 [donated by Ursula Zamecnik]
The secret of Hanging Rock : Joan Lindsay's final chapter / with an introduction by John Taylor ; and a commentary by Yvonne Rousseau 1987 [donated by Tim McKenna]
The private patient: an Adam Dalgliesh mystery / P.D. James 2008
Petropolis / Anya Ulinich
The white tiger / Aravind Adiga
Doors open / Ian Rankin 2008
Wrack / James Bradley 1997 [donated by Ursula Zamecnik]
All together now / Monica McInerney 2008
Scarpetta / Patricia Cornwell 2008
Cross country (Alex Cross series) / James Patterson
Waiting / Tasma (Theresa Tasmania)
How's Andy going / Alan Marshall 1956 [donated by Shirley Chapple]
Ice / Louis Nowra 2008
Junkie pilgrim / Wayne Grogan 2003 [donated by Dr Judith Buckrich]
The good mayor / Andrew Nicoll 2008
100 Australian poems you need to know / edited by Jamie Grant 2008
Spirit song : a collection of Aboriginal poetry / compiled by Lorraine Mafi-Williams 1993 [donated by Diane Nicholas]
The generations of men / Judith Wright ; illustrated by Alison Forbes 1959 [donated by Shirley Chapple]

Literature

RECENT ACQUISITIONS (November-January)

Australian writers / L. J. Blake 1968 [donated by Joan Ward]
The best Australian essays 2008 / edited by David Marr
Australia : a readers guide / edited by John Arnold ... [et al.]. 1996 [donated by John Simkin]
A history of Australian literature, pure and applied : vol.2 1923-1950 / by H. M. Green 2nd ed. 1971 [donated by April-Kaye Ikinci]
Directory of Australian poets 1980 / edited for the Poets Union of Australia by Philip Martin ... [et al.] [donated by Ursula Zamecnik]

Aboriginal History

Rock art conservation in Australia / Andree Rosenfeld 1985 [donated by Tim McKenna]
First Australians : an illustrated history / edited by Rachel Perkins and Marcia Langton 2008
Donald Thomson in Arnhem Land / by Donald Thomson ; compiled and introduced by Nicolas Peterson 2005 [donated by Wilma Farrow]
Victorian Koorie plants / Beth Gott and John Conron 1991 [donated by Diane Nicholas]
Victorian Aborigines : plant foods / Alison Oates, Annette Seeman 1979 [donated by Diane Nicholas]

Sport

Australians at the Olympics : a definitive history / by Gary Lester 1984 [donated by Tim McKenna]
The Australian game of football : since 1858 / managing editor, Geoff Slattery 2008
Australian sporting hall of fame / selected by the Wide world of sports team ; with forewords by Ian Chappell & Mike Gibson 1984 [donated by Robin Grow]
Howzat! : sixteen Australian cricketers talk to Keith Butler 1979 [donated by Shirley Chapple]

Politics

Menzies' child : the Liberal Party of Australia, 1944-1994 / Gerard Henderson 1994 [donated by Joan Ward]
Left right left : political essays 1977-2005 / Robert Manne [donated by John Simkin]
How to be a megalomaniac, or, Advice to a young politician / Mungo MacCallum ; cartoons by Patrick Cook 2002 [donated by Diane Nicholas]

Flora & Fauna

Flying fox and drifting sand : the adventures of a biologist in Australia / Francis Ratcliffe 1976 [donated by Ursula Zamecnik]
The best of wildlife in the suburbs / Densy Clyne ; illustrated by Martyn Robinson ; foreword by David Attenborough 1993 [donated by Mary-Louise Phillips]
Australian ferns and fern allies : with notes on their cultivation / D.L. Jones and S.C. Clemesha 1976 [donated by Mary-Louise Phillips]
Deadly invasions : introduced species in Australia / Greg Pyers, John Dahlenburg, Robert Gott 1995 [donated by Wilma Farrow]
Australian Garden History magazine (various issues) [donated by Diane Nicholas]
The Edna Walling book of Australian garden design / edited by Margaret Barrett 1980 [donated by Diane Nicholas]

Art & Architecture

Historic buildings of Australia: 1 / Australian Council of National Trusts 1977 [donated by Mary-Louise Phillips]
The Australian homestead / Philip Cox and Wesley Stacey 1972 [donated by Robin Grow]
Australia's heritage sketchbook / Keith Norris rev.ed. 1980 [donated by Robin Grow]
Old colonial buildings of Australia / Max Dupain, text by J.M. Freeland 1980 [donated by Mary-Louise Phillips]
Out of empire : the British dominion of Australia / edited by John Arnold, Peter Spearritt & David Walker 1993 [donated by John Simkin]
Art of Australia vol.1: exploration to federation / John McDonald 2008
The development of Australian sculpture, 1788-1975 / Graeme Sturgeon 1978
New art two : new directions in contemporary Australian art / edited by Nevill Drury 1988 [donated by Mary-Louise Phillips]
Arthur Streeton, 1867-1943 / Geoffrey Smith 1995 [donated by Diane Nicholas]
R.W. Sturgess, water-colourist, 1892-1932 / by Peter Perry and Beth Sinclair 1986 [donated by Diane Nicholas]
Artists of the Australian gold rush / by Alan McCulloch 1977

Miscellaneous

A guide to collecting Australiana / Juliana and Toby Hooper 1978 [donated by Robin Grow]
Permissive Australia / Suzy Jarratt 1970 [donated by John Simkin]
The great Australian book of insults / Bill Wannan 1982 [donated by John Simkin]
Tales from the Australian mountains / Niall Brennan 1979 [donated by Diane Nicholas]
The eighteenth century: costume reference / Marion Sichel 1977 [donated by Tim McKenna]
Museums in Victoria : a report to the Honourable Race Mathews, M.L.A., Minister for Arts, on the Victorian Museums survey conducted in 1982/83 / by Roger Trudgeon 1984 [donated by Tim McKenna]
Great Australian advertising campaigns / Neil Shoebridge 1992 [donated by Tim McKenna]
1788 : the brutal truth of the First Fleet : the biggest single overseas migration the world had ever seen / David Hill 2008
Developments in the law governing workers compensation in Victoria / by Orwell de R. Foenander 1956 [donated by Joan Ward]
Radio days : Australian bakelite radios / Peter Sheridan & Ritchie Singer 2008
From somewhere else : people from other countries who have made Australia home / compiled and photographed by Liz Thompson 1993 [donated by Mary-Louise Phillips]

RECENT ACQUISITIONS (November-January)

- Solomon's Ford: which Ford? which Solomon? / Valantyne J. Jones 1983 [donated by Robin Grow]
 Various periodicals [donated by Robin Grow]
 Stead's review [periodical] 13 issues between 1916-1920 [donated by Marita Hargraves]
 In the company of strangers / Janet M. Brown 1994 [donated by Ursula Zamecnik]
 The Napoleonic collection : a selection from the Mabel Brookes Napoleonic collection 1989 (booklet) [donated by Wilma Farrow]
 The land of sunshine and gold / by E. Towers 1892 [donated by Wilma Farrow]
 Nightingales in the mud : the digger sisters of the Great War, 1914-1918 / Marianne Barker [donated by Ursula Zamecnik]
 The female eunuch / Germaine Greer 1971 [donated by John Simkin]
 Australia through women's eyes / Ann Standish 2008
 Vital connections: Melbourne and its Board of Works 1891-1991 / Tony Dingle and Carolyn Rasmussen [donated by Stonnington Libraries]
 Dead man running / Ross Coulthart and Duncan McNab 2008
 Why isn't she dead! / Peggy Berman with Kevin Childs 1972 [donated by John Simkin]
 The Chinawoman / by Ken Oldis 2008
 Up and down the Sydney Road: the romance of the Hume Highway / Beresford Rea 1958 [donated by Fay McAliece]
 Australia at the Olympics / Malcolm Andrews 1996 [donated by Tim McKenna]
 Out of the smoke : the story of a sail / Ray Parkin 1960 [donated by Shirley Chapple]
 The peacock from the sea, and, The mysteries of the Schomberg / J. M. MacKenzie 1981? [donated by Wilma Farrow]
 Presbyterians in colonial Victoria / Malcolm Wood 2008
 Here at the end of the world : Ursuline pioneers in Australia / by Mary Kneipp 2007
 The Argus: life and death of a newspaper / edited by Jim Usher 1999 [donated by Dot Howson]
 Australian composition in the twentieth century / edited by Frank Callaway and David Tunley 1978 [donated by Mary-Louise Phillips]
 Mining in Australia / Ron Cull 1991 [donated by Tim McKenna]
 Digging for diggers : a guide to researching an Australian soldier of the Great War, 1914-1918 / Graeme Hosken 2002
 The purple devils : a history of the 2/6 Australian Commando Squadron, formerly the 2/6 Australian Independent Company, 1942-1946 / by S. Trigellis-Smith 1992
 The torch and the sword : a history of the army cadet movement in Australia / Craig A J Stockings 2007
 Pilgrimage : a traveller's guide to Australia's battlefields / Garrie Hutchinson 2006 [donated by John Simkin]
 The Hindus and Sikhs in Australia / Purushottama Bilimoria 1996 [donated by Tim McKenna]
 The racket : how abortion became legal in Australia / Gideon Haigh 2008
 Transitions : 150 years of the Royal Women's Hospital / photographer, Peter Garnick 2008
 Mechanics institutes in Victorian government gazettes CD-ROM
 Lighting up Australia : the story of the Australian match manufacturing industry 1843-2003 : also includes a section on New Zealand / Jerry Bell 2008
 From shamrock to wattle : digging up your Irish ancestors / Trevor McClaughlin 2nd ed. 1990 [donated by Mary-Louise Phillips]
 Flavours of Melbourne : a culinary biography / Charmaine O'Brien 2008
 Summer in the hills : the nineteenth-century mountain resort in Australia / Andrea Inglis 2007
 The Australian stage : a documentary history / edited by Harold Love 1984 [donated by John Simkin]
 Australian melodrama : eighty years of popular theatre / Eric Irvin 1981 [donated by John Simkin]
 The Teachers' journal: the journal of the Victorian Teachers' Union 1956-1961 (6 volumes) [donated by Joan Ward]
 Melbourne studies in education 1980 / edited by Stephen Murray-Smith [donated by Joan Ward]
 Parent, pupil and school : Victoria's education system / Gwyneth M. Dow ; with contributions by R.J. Selleck, P.D. Brereton and G. McDowall 1966 [donated by Joan Ward]
 Vision and realisation [microfiche] : a centenary history of state education Volume 2 : index of personal names / Ruth Hill 2001 (reference)
 Interview with Dr Judith Buckrich about the history of the Prahran Mechanics' Institute and Prahran Technical School / produced by Michael Hamilton 2008 DVD
 A Decade of Shann memorial lectures 1981-90 & the Australian economy / edited by M.A.B. Siddique 1993 [donated by John Simkin]
 True stories / Inga Clendinnen 1999 [donated by Diane Nicholas]
 A celebration of food & wine ; of flesh, of fish, of fowl / Eric Rolls 1997 [donated by Ursula Zamecnik]
 A step ahead: stories of farming life DVD / Department of Primary Industries, Vic. 2008 [donated by George Swinburne]
 Environment Bulletins 1-62 & Memoirs 1-31 [CD-ROM] / Geological Survey of Victoria 2000 [donated by George Swinburne]
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