

PTAHKAN MECHANICS' INSTITUTE VICTORIAN HISTORY LIBRARY

NEWSLETTER NO 72 - NOVEMBER 2011



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Patron:
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Open:
M-F 9.30am-4.30pm
Sat 9.30am-1.00pm

Membership:
\$12 individual
\$10 student/pensioner
\$30 institutional

Feedback/suggestions
for this newsletter
may be directed to
writer/compiler
Christine Worthington

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Victorian History Week 23-30 October

11.00am, Mon 24 Oct: Announcement:



PMI Short History Prize (\$1000)

The winning entry for this year's prize will be
announced on the PMI website www.pmi.net.au

6.45pm, Thu 27 Oct at PMI:



Historic Picture Show: Newsreel Theatres of Melbourne



From the late 1930s until their demise with the introduction of TV in the late 1950s, Melbourne had at least five 'Newsreel Theatres' in operation. Often called 'theatrettes', they screened a repeating one hour program of mixed short subjects - the main attraction being the latest newsreels.

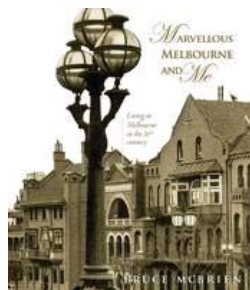
At a time when radio and newspapers were the major news mediums, the cinema newsreel provided an opportunity to see events in motion shortly after they occurred and enabled people to fill in an hour so at a time when life was a little more leisurely than today. The program usually consisted of a local and an international newsreel, a cartoon and a general interest item or comedy short and a short intermission. The same program was repeated throughout the day and evening.

CATHS Vice President, Ross King will introduce the evening's program with a short history of the 'Newsreel Theatres of Melbourne', to be followed by a selection of short subjects from the era on film.

A joint presentation of the PMI and CATHS.

Free entry - refreshments provided - bookings essential.

2pm, Sat 29 Oct at PMI: Lecture: **Bruce McBrien on Marvellous Melbourne and Me: Living in Melbourne in the 20th Century**



Bruce McBrien has enjoyed a virtual love affair with Melbourne and its environs almost since the day he was born. His family's social standing gave Bruce a rare perspective on Melbourne life. He spent much of his life working as a musical theatre actor and is a passionate supporter and long-serving volunteer of the National Trust of Victoria. *Marvellous Melbourne and Me* details the varied life of both the man and his city.

A joint presentation of the PMI and Prahran Historical & Arts Society.

Free entry - refreshments provided - bookings essential.

Victorian History Week is an initiative of the Royal Historical Society of Victoria
and is generously supported by the Vera Moore Foundation. To find out more visit:

www.historyweek.org.au

MEMBERS NEWS

New Members

Welcome to the following new members who joined Jul-Sep:

Australian Railway Historical Society Vic.
Ken Penalluna
Mary-Louise Phillips
Irene Robinson
Jeremiah Sloane
Tony Tibballs
Frank Van Straten
Michael Walkom
Christine Worthington

Financial Donors

Thank you to the following members who made financial donations to the library Jul-Sep:

Ada Ackerly
Stella Barber
Roger Beeston
Ian Clarke
Kaye Cole
John Dean
Nicholas Fothergill
Murray Houghton
Ingrid Kasapyan
Bob Newell
Gwen Orford
Raymond Ryan

Book Donors

Thank you to the following people and organisations who donated books to the library Jul-Sep:

Australian Railway Historical Society Vic.
Bayside Libraries
Martin Davey
Margaret Dunne
Wilma Farrow
Charles Lewis
Tim McKenna
Ken Penalluna
Mary-Louise Phillips
Irene Robinson
Jeremiah Sloane
Tony Tibballs
Frank Van Straten
Michael Walkom
Christine Worthington

GENERAL NEWS

2011 Library Survey



Not since 2004 has a survey of the PMI membership been undertaken. With such important times ahead the staff felt it a pivotal time to consult members on a whole range of matters.

Unlike the 2004 survey which was entirely in print format, this time we created both print

and online versions of the survey. Links to the survey were emailed to around 320 members and a further 180 printed versions were posted out.

The survey will give you the opportunity to provide feedback on all aspects of the PMI and the library service. Importantly, in light of our big move in the foreseeable future, you will also have the opportunity to consider the kinds of things you might like to see in an expanded library service in the larger space.

We're pleased to say that the response rate has been very good, and thank you very much to all those who took the time to get their responses in as early as possible. We've received completed surveys from nearly 30% of the membership so far, but would like to see many more.

The survey is anonymous and should take no more than around 10 minutes to complete. So, if you haven't yet completed and submitted your survey, please do so by **15 October** to make your voice count.

If for some reason you have not received your paper copy or link to the online version of the survey, please call 9510 3393 or email library@pmi.net.au and we will get one to you.

Library & Committee

Joining us behind the desk at the library is PMI volunteer Joshua Ward, who is working two days per week under a work experience placement program. Joshua will be working Mondays and Tuesdays until February next year.

Christine Worthington received a Distinction for the online course she completed recently. The course was offered by the Australian Library & Information Association via the Sydney Institute of TAFE. The course was about interactive Web 2.0 applications for libraries and her final report contains a number of recommendations for the PMI in its preparations for a new website to coincide with its move to the new premises.

Stonnington Community Grants

The PMI is fortunate to have been awarded nearly \$2000 financial assistance for various projects under the City of Stonnington Community Grants scheme.

The grant will be used for the scanning of the PMI minute books (further information p.2), postage costs for the newsletter, gifts for speakers at the library and the annual International Volunteer Day luncheon.

Committee member Steve Stefanopoulos put a great deal of work into the applications for these grants.

Christmas Closure

This is the final newsletter for 2011 so we'd like to remind everyone that the library will be closed on Melbourne Cup Day, Tuesday 1 November.

Also we wish everyone a very happy and safe Christmas break and advise that the library will close at



4.30pm, Thursday 22 December

and will reopen at

9.30am, Monday 9 January 2012.

As usual, the return book chute will be closed over the Christmas break. The Recent Additions list for November (distributed early in December) will contain a reminder for members to organise holiday reading early.

If you are buying for a history buff this Christmas, why not give the gift of reading? PMI gift memberships are a bargain at \$12 (or \$24 for two years) and will give your loved one all the benefits of membership. Additionally, PMI bookmarks (\$4) are a very handy item to slip inside a Christmas card.

National Family History Week Seminar

Thanks very much to Irene Fullarton and Alison Boundy (pictured below) for conducting the talks at this year's PMI seminar for National Family History Week.

Irene Fullarton is the President of VicGUM (Victorian Genealogists Using Microcomputers) and gave an introduction to family history and computers. Alison Boundy (PMI Committee



member and council member of the Genealogical Society of Victoria) gave a talk on organising and caring for family history documents.

The door prizes of a copy of *Tracing your family history on the internet* by Chris Paton and a PMI voucher & pen were won by Lyn Hindhaugh & Helen Franco.

Visiting Groups

On 17 September members of the Avoca & District Historical Society visited the PMI to look at the collection and the catalogue and find about the arrangement and description of materials, with a view to receiving some tips for the management of their own collection. Some years ago Christine visited Avoca to speak at the society's Helen Harris Room about the PMI.

In mid October the PMI will host the Library Committee of the Ballarat Mechanics' Institute.

Minute Books

The historic minute books of the PMI dating from 1861 are to be digitally preserved using funding from the Stonnington Community Grants scheme.

The nine minute books covering 1861-2006 were repaired and rebound in 2007, also thanks to a Stonnington Community Grant.

Up until now there has been a (not very readable) microfilm copy of the minutes 1861-2006, and students doing post-graduate research on the PMI over the years have had to use the original books (under supervision).

Anne Palamoutan, whom the MIV has engaged for some time to scan historic mechanics' institute records, has already begun scanning the PMI minutes on the MIV's large scanner. When this project is complete we will be in a position to index them and make them available to students and others interested in the history of the PMI.

NEWS FROM THE COMMITTEE

It is pleasing to report that settlement for 39 St Edmonds Road Prahran was effected on 16th August, so now the PMI is the legal owner of the property which is to become our new home. An "on site" meeting was held on 16th August when Committee and Staff conducted a "walk through" and commenced broad brush area allocations.

Considerable time is now being spent by committee and staff in preparatory planning work for the new library. A number of major issues require immediate attention, such as the location and costing for a lift from the ground floor to the library and meeting rooms to be located on the first floor.

A concept plan is currently being prepared which will attempt to address in more detail, floor area allocations and mandatory requirements.

Detail planning will follow during which specifics will be addressed. Co-incidentally a survey of membership is to be conducted in which we will be seeking your input. This survey will help guide us in future directions for our organisation and also reflect requirements for the new library. Please respond as your input will be valued.

Contributed by Peter Wolfenden

VOLUNTEERS NEWS

Volunteer Stats

To mid September 2011, 24 volunteers contributed 803 hours work in the library for book care duties, collection security project, newsletter distribution, Libraries Australia database input and other duties.

Additionally, seven book indexes have been submitted with a further four in process.

Hundreds of items have been added to the Libraries Australia database (so they will appear on a search of the Trove website) and magnetic strips have now been inserted into 47 bays of books, with much collection maintenance work carried out going along.

Aside from the usual preparation of new items for the selves, the book care team have now completed the relabelling, recovering and tattle-taping of all items in the glass cabinet, and the results are fantastic.

All of this work will prepare the library for the big move to the new premises, where security equipment will be in place to protect the increasingly rare local histories for the future.

We're fortunate to have in our volunteer register a number of library studies students who are able to carry out bibliographic searching, Libraries Australia data entry and other library specific tasks.

International Volunteer Day

All PMI volunteers who have made a contribution, however small, to the library in



2011 will soon receive their invitation to our fourth annual International Volunteer Day Luncheon.

On this occasion every year we recognise and acknowledge the hard work and commitment of volunteers. On this day all volunteers receive a certificate denoting their individual contribution to the library.

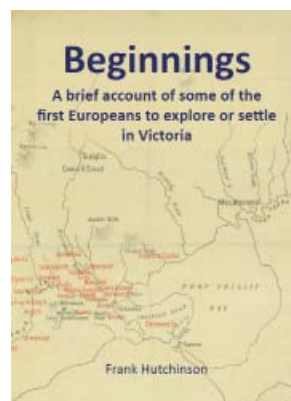
PMI PRESS UPDATE

The PMI Press submission round for a 2012 publication ended on 30 September, and the reading committee will now commence the selection process.

In the meantime, our 2011 publication has been selling well so don't forget to pick up your copy soon.

Beginnings:

**A Brief Account of Some of the
First Europeans to Explore or Settle
in Victoria**



Author: Frank Hutchinson.

Published: 28 May 2011

ISBN: 9780980453645

Extent: 122 A4 pages

Price: \$15 (inc. GST) + p&h

Available from:

BookPOD Online Bookstore:

You can order by post, but contact BookPOD first on 9803 4481 or sales@bookpod.com.au to find out how much to add for postage to your area.

PMI Victorian History Library at the loans desk,

140 High Street, Prahran (over the counter sales only) \$15 or \$13.50 for PMI members.

*In this installment of 'Writing History', PMI member **Jodi Turnbull**, an archaeologist, tells us about the exciting combination of historical maps and geographic information systems (GIS) to bring the past alive in modern landscapes.*

What Lies Beneath ...

Every person interested in history would love to have a crystal ball to look back into the past, but what if there was such a window into the past? Historical maps and GIS (Geographic Information Systems) are showing the way back into history.

One great way to understand the history of a place is to gather historical maps for the area. Maps provide windows into activities that occurred in the past, especially if that landscape has been drastically modified in more recent times and obscured past activities.

Archaeologists have long made use of historical maps to predict where archaeological sites may be located and Stonnington heritage studies have used historic maps to predict potential historical remains under Izett Street car park and housing commission flats in Prahran.

However, up until recently, the use of maps to predict the location of historical sites has been generally limited to side by side comparison of hard copy historical maps with their contemporary counterparts, or time consuming calculations and hand created overlays. Today, with advances in mapping technologies such as Geographic Information System (GIS) software, a new and exciting way of seeing into the past is emerging.

Imagine walking around Prahran with your GPS unit telling you where you are - not in the present, but in the past! With a device such as a GPS with a decent size screen or an IPAD (for example), you can easily walk around the landscape, looking not at today's landscape, but that of the past. Visit David Rumsey's historical maps on Google earth for some examples of how this technology is already being used (<http://www.davidrumsey.com/view/google-earth>).

A portion of an 1855 survey map of Prahran (below), illustrates this well. It indicates the locations of some of Prahran's earliest dwellings (indicated as dark rectangles/squares).



(From p. 5)

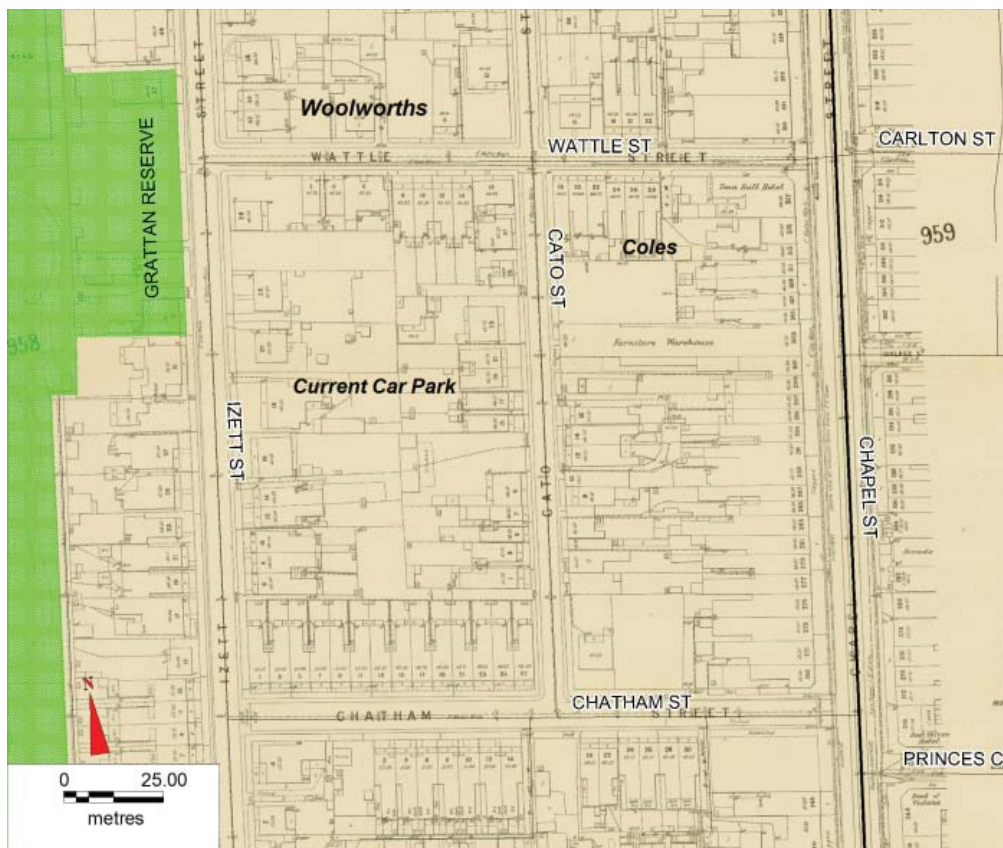
The map was prepared in a GIS system by matching known points on the historic map with contemporary locations and then assigning the known co-ordinates to the historic map. In this case it is quite easy as many main streets provide good clear intersections that have not changed since the historic map was created. When enough known intersections were assigned co-ordinates the map is then known as a geo-referenced map and can be inserted into any software that can read geo-referenced maps. In the GIS software Prahran's current streets and parks were overlain at the press of a button and as if by magic, the past is revealed underneath the modern landscape. If anyone has tried trying to locate themselves in a landscape with only a paper copy of an historical map to guide you, you will know it can be deceptively difficult to pin point your precise location. Another very useful and available spatial layer for pinpointing locations on historic maps is modern property boundaries, however this is a costly spatial layer to purchase and is not shown on this map. The newly created combined map can then be printed or viewed on an IPAD or GPS unit which has the advantage of being able to show you your current location on the historical map (provided you have appropriate software installed): your location in the past is no longer a guess. With

the historic map accurately geo-referenced to match the contemporary landscape, one can now walk around the historic landscape and know exactly where you are back in time.

Another great resource we have in Melbourne are the Melbourne Metropolitan Board of Works (MMBW) maps from the late 19th century (digital versions are available for viewing online via the State Library of Victoria). These are particularly useful maps for the historian as they were generally well surveyed and contain lots of detail, particularly property boundaries and internal property features. Once geo-referenced, the location of smaller features such as garden layouts, foundations or cesspits from individual properties can be identified to within a few meters.

This is useful for archaeologists who are often interested in the cesspits of former dwellings. Cesspits were, amongst other things, the repositories of many discarded household items, and they can inform the historian of an enormous amount of information about the householders status and activities. One MMBW map for Prahran is particularly interesting.

The Izett Street car park behind Coles and Woolworths in Prahran was once densely occupied. Over 45 properties ranging from very small workers cottages to larger middle class villas lined the streets.



<http://dl.dropbox.com/u/5728216/Urban%20Files%20to%20Share/Izett%20St%20car%20park.kmz>

For the more adventurous who have Google Earth, I have prepared a geo-referenced map of the carpark to use in Google Earth. Copy this link to your browser, download the file to your computer and then double click the file. It will automatically launch Google Earth and insert in the correct spatial location. In Google Earth, the map can be made transparent.

It is hard to know what remains of these houses as construction of the car park may have removed all traces. On the other hand, the laying of asphalt may have preserved many subsurface features such as cesspits and foundations. Some recent ground penetrating radar survey of similar car parks in Hawthorn unfortunately revealed all traces of previous 19th century dwellings had been destroyed by the car park construction.

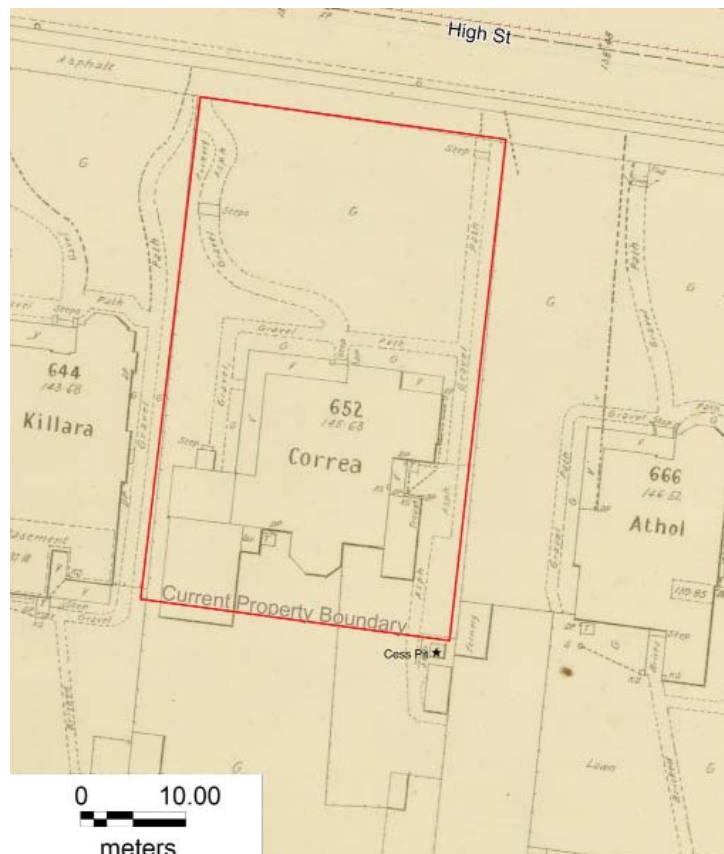
However, lets take a look under Chris Gahan Reserve in Prahran. An geo-referenced MMBW map revealed many previous houses of middle class status underneath the existing park boundaries. To confirm this ground penetrating radar survey of this park was

carried out earlier this year and has indeed revealed that many traces of these dwellings still survive; there could be many stories still preserved underground.

The implications for this technology for archaeologists is immense. Large scale open excavations are expensive and time consuming. This technology allows keyhole archaeology where the location of small areas of interest can be identified with confidence, and therefore only small areas need be excavated to extract the relevant archaeology.

The implications for local councils is also significant as this technology allows quick and accurate identification of potential historical places that may be under threat from development. If early detection (in the form of geo-referenced historical maps) is utilised by local governments, then archaeological investigation of significant local historical places can take place before new development irretrievably destroys all archaeological deposits.

Take 652 High Street, Prahran (former Toorak Grammar School) for example. Slated for demolishing earlier this year archaeologists geo-referenced the relevant MMBW plan using GIS technology and identified a potential cesspit in the south east corner of the back




(From p. 7)

yard, the archaeological potential of which was subsequently registered with Heritage Victoria. Although the cess pit appears to be a few meters south of the property boundary, inaccuracies in the original map and geo-referencing need to be taken into consideration and in this case the potential for the cesspit to be within the current property boundary warrants further investigation.

Should the development significantly disturb the subsurface deposits in the south east corner, the developer has been made aware of his requirement by law to undertake some archaeological investigation to confirm if the cess pit is present. Very little is known about this interesting historical period when private boarding colleges sprung up everywhere to meet the needs of a rising middle class in the late 19th century. In the absence of written records, archaeology provides an important avenue of exploration for discovering the past and the example of 652 High Street is one where archaeology has the potential to greatly add to our understanding of this aspect of Prahran's middle class culture of the 19th century.

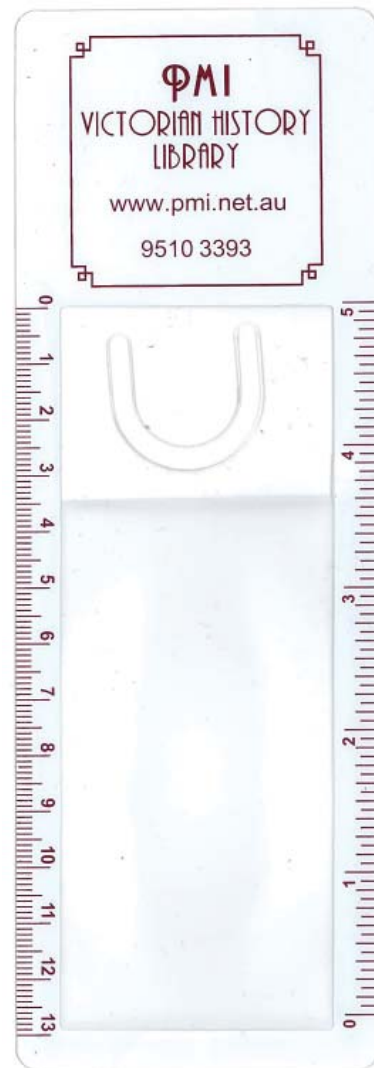
With progress comes some inevitable destruction and loss of the past. Using historical geo-referenced maps can be both informative for the public, historians, and archaeologists, and also a tool for local governments to ensure significant local historical information is not lost forever. As GIS technology becomes increasingly utilised by the general public (in the form of mobile phones, GPS and IPADs), the demand for geo-referenced maps will increase and most institutions that hold hard copy historical maps will begin to provide geo-referenced digital versions for use in mobile devices.

Next time you walk around your neighbourhood, take a moment to wonder what lies beneath. 

*The author would like to thank
OchreImprints (Heritage Consultants)
for access to spatial data layers.*

PMI Library fundraising

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FICTION

NOTE: All information reproduced from book jacket blurbs.

AUSTRALIAN HISTORY

Kinglake-350 / Adrian Hyland

Black Saturday. February 7, 2009.

Roger Wood is a cop on duty at Kinglake when the most devastating fire in the nation's history roars through the ranges into his beat. His task is to defend his town against the colossus that threatens to destroy it. And, over the course of one nightmarish day, that is what he will do. Even at the risk of his own life. Even after he receives the dreadful phone call telling him his own wife and kids are caught on the front line of the inferno.

Breaking the sheep's back: the shocking true story of the decline and fall of the Australian wool industry / Charles Massy

This book is the untold story of the events that led to Australia's biggest industry disaster.

Once a great nation-building icon, the wool business today is but a third of its size when Australia 'rode on the sheep's back'. Compared to the more recent Australian Wheat Board scandal, 40 times more funds were lost in the downfall, and vastly more collateral social and economic damage was done in this country and across the globe.

This story is a tragedy that reaches into the offices of prime ministers and cabinet members across seven federal governments and its agencies. Despite this politically sanctioned collapse, there has never been a royal commission. Until now, no one has investigated what precipitated the great crash of February 1991 or the industry's ongoing decline.

It has taken author Charles Massy ten years to research and write this book. In the process he spoke to most of the major players and gained access to the key documents and correspondence. He has gone inside cabinet and political offices, the Wool Corporation, the boardrooms of international wool buyers, wool processors and designers, and the living rooms of farmers across the country.

This book is Massy's private royal commission – a must-read account of the decline and fall of the Australian wool empire.

P.O.W.: Australian prisoners of war in Hitler's Reich / Peter Monteath

Australians from every branch of our armed forces in World War Two found themselves captive in Hitler's notorious prisoner of war camps. Whether bomber crews and fighter pilots shot down over Europe, soldiers taken in North Africa and the disastrous Greek and Cretan campaigns, or even merchant seamen captured half a world away, they were to see out the war in the heart of Hitler's Europe, their fate ultimately connected to the fortunes of the Reich.

Most were forced to labour in factories, down mines or on the land – often in conditions of enormous privation and hardship. All suffered from shortages, overcrowding and the mental strain of imprisonment. Some tried to escape – a few successfully, a few paying with their lives.

The experiences of Australian prisoners of war in Germany have long been overshadowed by the horrors of Japanese imprisonment, yet their stories of courage, stoicism, suffering and endurance deserve to be told. Peter Monteath's fascinating narrative history of these prisoners of war is exhaustively researched and compelling in its detailed evocation.

Navy divers / Gregor Salmon

Rising out of the Second World War, the Australian clearance diver has become one of the most respected and versatile operators in the military world. In cold, murky water, working by touch alone, they can defuse a mine powerful enough to sink a battleship. Under the burning Afghan sun, they can dismantle a Taliban roadside bomb. Welcome to the world of the Royal Australian Navy clearance divers.

Bomb and mine disposal is but one of their roles. As covert swimmers they can infiltrate enemy waters. As boarding parties they are on the anti-piracy front line. As counterterrorist special forces they are on call 24/7. They are simply one of the best diving units in the military world.

Their story goes back to the Second World War, when Hitler's secret weapon – the magnetic mine – had Britain on her knees. Four extraordinary Aussies were among the brave naval volunteers who tackled Nazi mines on land and under water. The men who followed their path share the same brand of courage. From the rivers of Vietnam to the deserts of Afghanistan, navy divers have excelled under the most dire pressure, yet we know very little of their heroic deeds. Their incredible story had remained behind closed doors. Until now ...

BIOGRAPHY

Fair cop / Christine Nixon with Jo Chandler

Christine Nixon became the first female Chief Commissioner of Police in Australia, appointed to head Victoria Police at a most crucial time – the underworld was in the midst of a bloody war, the spectre of terrorism was emerging as a powerful new threat, and there was a stench of internal corruption.

In this frank and engaging memoir, Christine Nixon reflects on the journey of a woman deep in a man's world, describing the experiences that shaped her commitment to a model of policing as a community service, committed to caring for society's most vulnerable. She explores the challenges of managing a police force through a period of profound social and cultural change, explains the hidden tensions at the front line of politics and policing and exposes the poisonous culture war within police ranks.

This book candidly shares the public and private stories of Christine Nixon – woman, spouse, citizen, constable – on a journey that encounters tragedy, corruption, ambition and humility. In its final chapters, it takes readers inside the events of Black Saturday, the disaster that would so cruelly scar the state of Victoria, claim so many lives, and test Christine Nixon as nothing before. It tracks the intimate story of her days before the Bushfires Royal Commission and recounts her efforts, as head of the Victorian Bushfires Reconstruction and Recovery Authority, to renew ravaged communities.

Lunatic soup / Andrew Fraser

Thrown into prison after cocaine use brought him undone, Andrew Fraser watched his world collapse after spending thirty years as a high-profile criminal lawyer. Despite being a low-risk prisoner, he was sent to a maximum-security prison housing thirty-eight of Australia's most dangerous criminals.

Fraser paints a vivid picture of the grim, terrifying and futile reality of maximum-security, living with murderers, psychopaths, paedophiles and the criminally insane. Most have no likelihood of release and nothing to lose. In this house of horrors his life was at risk every minute of every day.

In an extraordinary twist, sadistic serial killer Peter Dupas made chilling revelations to Andrew, making him a star witness for the prosecution in Dupas' murder trial. This book is a gripping insight into Australia's penal system from a man who knows it inside out.

FICTION

Australian fiction

Spirit of progress / Steve Carroll

Ron McCoy's sea of diamonds / Gregory Day

De Luxe (Jack Susko mystery) / Lenny Bartulin

A break in the chain: the early Kozminskys / Tangea Tansley

Sarah Thornhill: sequel to The Secret River / Kate Grenville

Sorry / Gail Jones

Dismissal / Nicholas Hasluck

The brotherhood / Y.A. Erskine

General fiction & mysteries

Vault / Ruth Rendall

How I became a famous novelist / Steve Hely

Portrait of a spy (Gabriel Allon thriller) / Daniel Silva

The hidden child (Erica Falck and Patrik Hedstrom mystery) / Camilla Lackberg

Black out / Lisa Unger

Great House / Nicole Krauss

Dead man's grip / Peter James

General non-fiction

Story of Ireland / Neil Hegarty

For the full list of new items, see the monthly 'Recent Additions' supplement.

RECENT ADDITIONS TO THE PMI LIBRARY:

The monthly 'Recent Additions' list is automatically sent to all those who receive this newsletter by email. If you receive the newsletter by post and would like to have the Recent Additions posted to you please let us know by phone 9510 3393 or by email library@pmi.net.au and we will add you to the mailing list.



HISTORIC HAPPENINGS

Brighton Historical Society

10am-4pm, Wed 26 Oct 2011 - Oral History Workshop - Presented by Lesley Alves, this workshop covers all aspects of preparation for oral history, interviewing, and post interview tasks and would be invaluable for any individual or group considering undertaking an oral history project. \$20 includes morning and afternoon tea as well as printed notes. Bayside Arts & Cultural Centre (Old Brighton Town Hall, cnr Wilson & Carpenter Streets, Brighton). *Further information and bookings phone 9553 8650. A copy of the program and registration form can be obtained at the PMI library.*

Casey-Cardinia Library Corp. with Casey-Cardinia Local History Reference Group

10.30am-3.30pm, Sat 22 Oct - Local History Expo. Discover the history and pioneers of the Casey/Cardinia region at this FREE expo. Local Heritage Groups will feature fascinating photograph displays, a range of historical items, and will be happy to answer questions. Narre Warren Library Meeting Room, Overland Drive, Fountain Gate, Melway 110 D4. *For further information contact Heather Arnold, 9704 7696 or heather.arnold@cclc.vic.gov.au or visit <http://cclc.vic.gov.au/content/local-history-expo>*

Cinema & Theatre Historical Society

The CATHS archives (next door to the PMI library) is now open to the public on most Thursdays 10am-12pm and 1pm-3pm and last Saturdays of Feb, Apr, Aug and Oct 10am-12pm. If you have an enquiry or would like to find out more about CATHS or its interesting cinema and theatre archives all are welcome, but please phone first to confirm the archives is open. *Call Royce on 9589 3448 or Gerry 0432 434 169.*

Friends of St Kilda Cemetery

10.30am, Sun 30 Oct - A Children's Tour. A special Halloween Tour that aims to familiarise children with the stories behind some of the tombstones of people who often helped to shape our life today. Witches, wizards and monsters of junior to middle primary school age are invited to come trick or treating through the tombstones in this entertaining and educational tour. Prizes will be given for the best Halloween costumes and each child will receive a trick or treat pack. *Further information and bookings: <http://trybooking.com/UNH> or 9531 6832.*

2.00pm, Sun 6 Nov - All Souls Tour for Adults. A special All Souls' Tour will look at religious people buried in St Kilda Cemetery. *Further information and bookings: 9531 6832.*

Public Record Office

FREE workshops coming up:

11.00am, Wed 19 Oct - Workshop - Caring for Your Photos and Documents (Ballarat Archives Centre). *Further information and bookings, visit <http://prov.vic.gov.au/whats-on/events-calendar>.*

St Kilda Historical Society

6.30pm, Thu 20 Oct – Guest speaker – Meyer Eidelson on Luna Park: a century of lunacy. View historic film and photos as SKHS hosts an evening on the history and heritage of Luna Park, one of Melbourne's greatest landmarks as well as one of the oldest amusement parks in the world. St Kilda Library, light refreshments provided, SKHS & Linked Members FREE Non-members welcome: Entry \$5 or entry included if you choose to join SKHS at the door (\$18 yr). *Gabriel, ph 9529 7442.*

3.00pm, Sun 13 Nov - Guest speakers - George Florence (proprietor, Astor Theatre) & Tara Judah (Assistant Manager) on 2011 A Screen Odyssey: The Astor Theatre, 75 years and beyond. An illustrated presentation taking us beyond the screen of St Kilda's most elegant and enduring movie theatre with its larger than life characters. Discover The Astor's previous incarnations; its inception on the northern frontier in Chapel & Dandenong Rd St; its connection with St Kilda Council, and its hosting of the St Kilda Film Festival during its 75yr odyssey. Community Room, St Kilda Library. Light refreshments [and popcorn] provided.

Further information and bookings for both of the above events: info@skhs.org.au or phone 9209 6866 and leave a message. Members free, non-members \$5.

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HISTORY WEEK OCT 23-30:

Details of our History Week activities including

Historic Picture Show:

QFWSPREEL THEATRES OF MELBOURNE:

and History Week Lecture: Bruce McBrien on

QARVELLOUS MELBOURNE AND ME

WRITING HISTORY:

Featuring Archaeologist Jodi Turnbull p.5

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