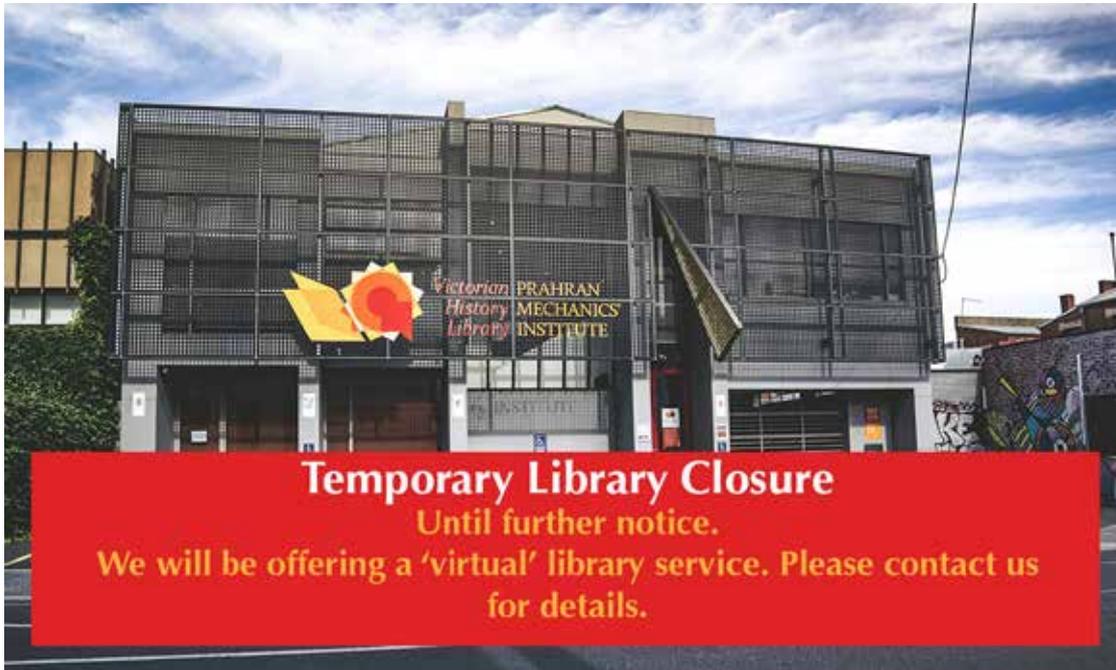




## COMING UP



### Temporary Library Closure

Until further notice.

We will be offering a 'virtual' library service. Please contact us for details.

## TEMPORARY LIBRARY CLOSURE

Until further notice we will be closed to our members and the general public.

However, we will still be working on-site at this stage and if you require any material scanned and emailed or other 'Ask a Librarian' reference and research services, please contact us. All material currently on loan has been extended to 30 June 2020.

## WELCOME FROM THE SECRETARY LIBRARIAN



From the Secretary Librarian

"Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it" – George Santayana from *The life of reason: the phases of human progress* (1906).

Welcome to our first newsletter for 2020. I am sorry for the delay in getting the newsletter to you but we have had a rather tumultuous time in recent weeks.

We are truly living in extraordinary times. Who could imagine that in November and December last year we were concerned about the terrible bushfires up and down the east coast of Australia and that only very sketchy reports were emerging from China about a 'new flu like virus'.

Right now with the world in lockdown and a relentless stream of seemingly depressing news about the toll COVID-19 is taking on our social and economic systems and life in general can we pause to reflect in these troubling times?

I think we can. It is just over a century since much of Australia was inflicted by the Spanish Influenza. It was first detected in Victoria in December 1918 and the following month the government declared Victoria as being infected and lock downs commenced. Public meetings were limited, restrictions on travelling on long distance trains was

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## ABOUT THE PMI

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**Due to COVID-19 we are temporarily closed to our members and the public.**

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introduced and most public buildings closed. The NSW government closed the border with Victoria. Around 12,500 people sadly succumbed to the highly infectious virus across Australia.

Newspaper accounts of the day available through Trove present a 'snapshot' in time perspective of how the Victorian community responded to the events of the time. News items included public lectures and vaccination programs, requests for volunteers to assist medical personnel, legal obligations of the public and many misinformed claims that the disease was caused by bacteria.

This was at a time when there was no television, radio and telephones were very much a luxury. Newspapers were the primary source of information for many.

## **So what is happening at PMI?**

We made the decision to close in line with Federal and State Government directives and cancel all upcoming events and external organisation bookings of our William Moss Room.

Our volunteer program has been placed on hold.

Our AGM normally held in May each year has been deferred for at least three months following a request to the State Government.

We are at this stage working from home and at PMI and providing a 'virtual' library service to our members.

Staff have reduced their hours during this time due to financial constraints caused by loss of income from our tenants and we have reduced all expenditure where possible. This decision has not been made lightly but is necessary given the current state of play and is ultimately in the best interests of the PMI. I am very grateful for the team's support with this.

We have applied for the various assistance packages on offer from all tiers of government and we are eligible for payroll tax refunds which will be of considerable assistance to maintain business continuity during this time.

However we will endeavour to maintain a 'virtual' library service to our members which includes for example:

- Scanning and emailing extracts from our collection including reports, books, journal articles and other information;
- Regularly updating our blog and Facebook page with interesting content to keep everyone engaged and interested but also to provide some much needed distractions;
- Experimenting with video recordings about all aspects of Victorian local history that we can make available through our blog and Facebook page; and
- Continuing to provide a newsletter and Recent Additions.

In terms of what staff are doing, in addition to providing a 'virtual' library service we are:

- Applying for grants and other assistance measures to help PMI work through this time and into the future;
- Continuing to index and catalogue items for the collection and undertake maintenance of our catalogue;
- Working on upgrading and improving our website
- Work on the incorporation of the PMI whereby we will, subject to a future meeting of members the PMI will incorporate under the Associations Reform Act (2012);
- Review and develop our policies and procedures; and
- Work on the development of a new Strategic Plan for the PMI.

We are remaining optimistic and positive during this time.

## **In other news**

In staffing news we say farewell to Chris Moysey-Barker who resigned in December for family reasons. Chris started in 2016 after working at Mornington Peninsula Libraries and was instrumental in driving PMI forward with an innovative range of events and programs including Open House Melbourne, Clunes Booktown, Australian Heritage Festival and Seniors Festival amongst others. Chris's design and technology skills were fundamental in keeping our web presence vibrant and also working very hard to streamline our membership processes on our library management system. Chris also helped us forge some excellent relationships with key organisations in the community.

Chris's laugh and humour was infectious and her interest in Australian music and popular culture exceptional. Always ready with a good idea or suggestion Chris worked well with the team, our members and volunteers.

Chris – thanks for all your support during your tenure at PMI. You will be missed.

We then say 'welcome' to Vanessa O'Farrell who commenced in mid-March 2020. Vanessa comes to us from Frankston City Libraries' marketing and communications team. Vanessa has extensive experience in event management, website and print design and communications and we look forward to Vanessa settling in to PMI.

## What can you do?

Although we are 'physically' closed we are still here.

Please keep in contact.

Send us an email or give us a call even it is just for a quick chat.

Keep an eye on our blog and Facebook page.

Ellen is collecting material on COVID-19 for our vertical file and ephemera collection and you can help too.

Email or post to us material you receive in your letter box from Council or the government or snip things out from the newspapers. Take screen shots of websites and send them through to us. The more we can learn and understand about the 'now' the better it will be for us and future generations to learn and understand the 'past' ... which is our 'now' so to speak.

We are also wanting to hear your stories... put pen to paper or fingers to the keyboard and share your experiences about perhaps growing up in Melbourne or country Victoria in the 1960s or 1980s. What do you remember? What did you like or dislike?

Stay positive and of course safe. We will get through this as a community and yes we will emerge a different society but hopefully a better one.

Take care and we look forward to seeing you in person soon.

*Steven Haby, Secretary Librarian.*

## GENERAL NEWS

### WELCOME - VANESSA O'FARRELL



I started working here as the Marketing, Communications and Events Coordinator in March of this year. I have previously worked in public, law, medical, academic libraries and for a short time with library suppliers.

Prior to working at *PMI Victorian History Library* I was the Online Engagement Librarian for Frankston

City Libraries. Having worked in various areas of libraries, marketing is a new, challenging and exciting role and I look forward to expanding my knowledge and experience in this field.

*Vanessa O'Farrell, Marketing, Communications and Events Coordinator.*

# UPDATE

## PMI INCORPORATION STATUS

As you would expect during this time the project has been affected by the COVID-19 pandemic however we are still working remotely and sharing suggestions on what our model rules might look like. Ideally we will send these out to the members once the Committee has reviewed and made any final adjustments.

Interestingly one of the key features of the model rules which is somewhat pertinent at the moment is that it enables the use of 'technology' to support the provision of meetings (Annual General Meetings, General Meetings and so on) which our current Act of Parliament does not allow. In other words we will include the ability for members to attend meetings through Zoom, Skype, phone or other electronic means available at the time rather than having to appear in person at a meeting.

## GRANTS

We continue to work diligently in seeking out and applying for grants and other initiatives which at this stage are so very critical for the PMI.

In April 2020 we have been successful in receiving the Victorian Government's Business Development Grant designed to help small to medium enterprises, not-for-profits and other organisations maintain business continuity during this time.

We were also very successful in our grant application to the Windsor Bendigo Community Bank for a number of occupational health and safety initiatives to keep our members, staff, volunteers and the public who visit PMI safe. This includes the installation of a defibrillator. Thank you very much.

Currently we are finalising several grant opportunities with the City of Stonnington and the National Library of Australia

## COLLECTION CORNER

### Women's Role in History

By Ellen Coates

Women's role in history can often be relegated to the shadows on the sidelines and, though there has been lots of progress made, all too frequently women remain the afterthought. Regularly, this is because their records are simply harder to find. Women's surnames change with marriage and they are often less likely to be recorded in official documents. While anyone writing history today works to ensure that women are a core part of the narrative, it can be hard to get beyond a name and a date. The PMI's collection can help.

We hold a number of books on the role and lives of women: from indigenous women, to the pioneer era, to war brides and more contemporary resources. We also hold electronic resources which can be a gold mine of extra information from police gazettes to hospital indexes. These less overt ways women interacted with bureaucracy can be a good way to find them. As most of you will know, we have Ancestry in the library too if you haven't managed to track down the names and dates. But if you have, then the other resources will allow you to add even greater depth to your work.

It's worth considering some of the more general material about women in Victoria and Australia that is available. You may be lucky enough to find specific women you are looking for, but if not the resources can give an excellent idea of how women would have lived in the time or place you are researching and the role they would have played. More general works can give you new avenues to research, as well as places and organisations that you might not even have considered.

As always, these sorts of resources are, if nothing else, really interesting:

From *Love & War* we learn about the war brides from World War One to Vietnam. As well as covering the lives of individual women, you can discover how war shaped and changed the roles of women in society. An example from *Love & War* is the story of Doris West, who came from England to Fremantle after World War One as the fiancé of an Australian serviceman. Sadly, she decided she couldn't stay with him, so she continued onto Melbourne where she worked at the McPherson's hardware store before marrying again.

*Love & War: Stories of war brides from the Great War to Vietnam* by Carol Fallows.

Or you might like to consider the history of the National Council of Women of Australia. Again, this is a social and individual history, of an organisation though rather than a movement. The NCWA was a body that advocated for women to government in Australia. If you are looking for a specific person, you might be lucky enough to find them discussed. Even if you don't, knowing about women's organisations like the NCWA can help to build a picture of the activism that any women you are trying to uncover might have been undertaking or which would have at least been part of their world.

*Respectable Radicals: A history of the National Council of Women of Australia 1896-2006* by Mary Quartly and Judith Smart.

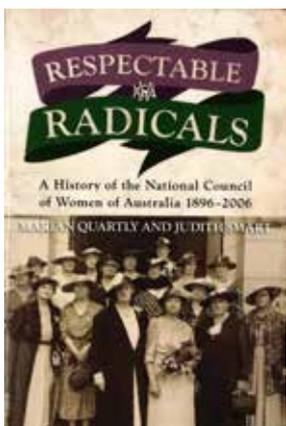
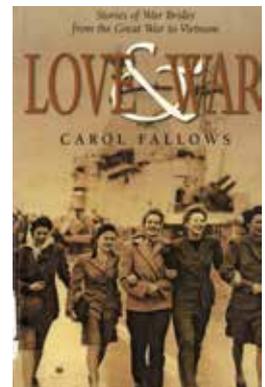
If you are researching the pioneer era, we have a number of books on the role of pioneer women and the life they led. Everything from mothers and daughters, to marriage, to destitute wives. You can learn how they might have married, and what might have happened to them. How they would have coped if they were forced, by circumstance or desire, to step outside the traditional roles of women. Deserted wives did have some recourse in court, whether they were looking for maintenance for children or to charge their husband with desertion, but it wasn't an easy process and the moral characters of the women were often maligned. These resources can also give insight into the day to day lives of women in the time period.

*Deserted and Destitute: Motherhood, wife desertion and colonial welfare* by Christine Twomey

*Pioneer Women Pioneer Land: Yesterday's tall poppies* by Susanna de Vries-Evans



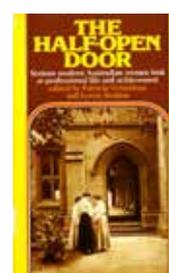
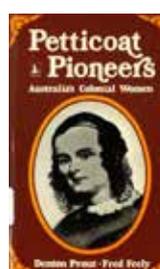
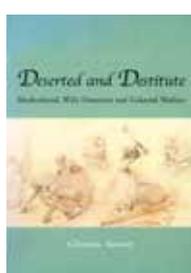
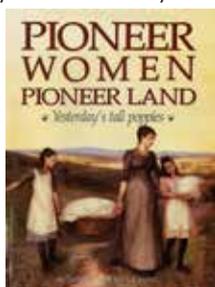
*While anyone writing history today works to ensure that women are a core part of the narrative, it can be hard to get beyond a name and a date. The PMI's collection can help.*



*Petticoat Pioneers: Australia's colonial women* by Denton Prout.

As more recent history becomes the topic of research, it is also worth considering the lives of women into the mid to late 20th century. PMI resources like *Wallflower and Witches: Women and culture in Australia 1910-1945* by Maryanne Dever, can give you a really good idea of how life would have evolved and changed through two world wars and the resulting social upheaval. As we move further into the 20th century you'll begin to find books like *The Half Open Door: Sixteen modern women look at professional life and achievement* by Patricia Grimshaw and Lynne Strahan. This book illuminates individual women as they pushed for change and representation to determine how women would shape society as times were changing.

So, whether you want to discover individual women or to learn more about their lives and the role they would have played in society, the PMI has you covered.



## Periodicals

We've highlighted the periodical collection before in Collection Corner. Over the last months, however, we've had quite a few new additions to the collection, so we thought we'd use this Collection Corner to introduce them. We've split them into two groups.

1. New historical and family history societies which are indexed on the PMI catalogue but aren't for loan
2. Bigger more national organisations whose journals we index but also loan out.

### Historical and Family History Societies

*Orbost and District Historical Society: newsletter* P 994.56 ORBO ORB

Founded in 1967 the Orbost and District Historical Society has a museum in Orbost and their newsletter, that is put out 6 times a year, covers local families, local people, items in their collection and events both past and present (amongst other material). From 2003 until the present the newsletter can be found indexed on the PMI catalogue.

*Phillip Island and District Genealogical Society: Reflections newsletter* P 994.52 PHIL REF

First incorporated in 1991 the Phillip Island and District Genealogical Society exists to "promote, foster and practice all aspects of genealogical study." They put out a newsletter four times a year and the most recent edition can be found indexed on our catalogue. PMI Volunteers are working on indexing the back issues.

*Rochester Historical and Pioneer Society: newsletter* P 994.54 ROCH PIO

The Rochester Historical Society was formed in 1967 and it was merged with the Pioneer Society to form the Rochester Historical and Pioneer Society in 1986. They operate from the Common School which was built in 1874 and gifted to the Historical Society by a Mrs Ross. They put out a newsletter and the recent issues can be found indexed on our catalogue. We are in the process of indexing the back issues.

*Kinglake Historical Society: newsletter* P 995.53 KING KIN

Kinglake Historical Society works to "collect and preserve the information and memorabilia related to the history of the district." They meet on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of every month. They put out a regular newsletter, the most recent issues of which can be found indexed on our catalogue, again we are looking at sourcing back issues.

*Sebastopol Historical Society: Southern Star* P 994.52 SEBA SOU

Sebastopol Historical Society was founded in 1973 and have been meeting in the Sebastopol Community Centre since 1979. You can find their newsletter indexed on our catalogue.

*Maltese Historical Society: Merhba* P 305.892 MALT MER

The Maltese Historical Society Australia was founded in 1987 with the objective to promote "interest in the study of all aspects of the history – social, cultural, economic, political and religious – of Malta and the Maltese people, and to

encourage and support research in Maltese history.”

Their newsletter comes out eight times a year and the recent issues can be found on the PMI Catalogue.

*Carlton Community History Group: Newsletter* P 994.51 CARL CAR

Carlton Community History Group was incorporated in 2007 as a small group of committed people who were interested in the history of Carlton. They have published a number of books and articles all of which can be found on the PMI's catalogue. Additionally they put out a newsletter four times a year and you can find it indexed on the PMI's catalogue.

*Mission to Seafarers: Ship to Shore* 266 MAR SHI

Mission to Seafarers is a worldwide mission from the Anglican Church that cares for “the practical and spiritual welfare of seafarers of all nationalities and faiths.” There are 230 mission sites around the world and four in Victoria in Melbourne, Portland, Geelong and Hastings. The Victorian branch has operated from their heritage listed building in Flinders Street since 1917.

They put out a newsletter called *Ship to Shore News* four times a year and they can be found indexed on our catalogue.

*Apollo Bay and District Historical Society: Cable Calls* P 994.57 APO CAL

The Apollo Bay Historical Society is housed in the old cable station- which was the location for the cable that connected Tasmania to the mainland. They run a museum from the building, including an extensive collection of histories of the local people. Their newsletter *Cable Calls* will shortly be indexed and available on the PMI's catalogue

## **National Organisations**

*Australian Jazz Museum: Ajazz: Proactively Collecting, Archiving and Disseminating Australian Jazz* P 781.65 AJA

The Australian Jazz Museum was founded in 1996, but jazz collections have been being built in Australia since the 1920s, especially in the 1940s and 1950s. In 1997 the Museum moved to its current since in a disused car repair shop in Wantirna. The collection continued to grow with a special emphasis on saving rare and fragile material. By 2015 two new 40-foot containers with compactus storage had to be installed to house the ever growing collection. You can search their extensive collection on their [website](#). Recent issues of their journal are indexed on our catalogue and are also for loan.

*Australiana Society: Australiana* P 994 AUS

The Australiana Society was founded in 1978 to “encourage interest, collecting, preservation and research of Australiana.” Their magazine *Australiana* comes out four times a year and covers a range of information about Australiana including “art, furniture, ceramics, silver, jewellery, books, architecture, fashion, photography, crafts and history.” There's also practical help for collectors. The most recent issues of their magazine can be found indexed on the PMI catalogue for loan and reservation.

*Australian Geographic Pty. Ltd: Australian Geographic* P 994 NAT GEO

Most of you will be familiar with Australian Geographic and its magazine. The Australian Geographic Society was founded in 1987 by Dick Smith. It's a not for profit organisation “dedicated to supporting scientific research, protecting and fostering a love for our environmental and natural heritage, encouraging the spirit of discovery and spreading the knowledge of Australia to Australians and the world.” They put out a bimonthly magazine. We have back issues indexed from 1986-2013, which were generously donated, on the catalogue, though these aren't for loan. From 2020 onwards we have begun collecting the magazine as it comes out and it can be viewed and reserved from the PMI catalogue. We see the natural history of Victoria as an important part of the collection, and by collecting Australian Geographic we can ensure that Victoria's natural history is a core part of our periodical collection.

*Australian Teachers of Media: Metro* P 791.43 MET

*Metro Magazine* is put out by Australian Teachers of Media and is a quarterly magazine “specialising in essays, articles and interviews on Australian, New Zealand and Asian features, shorts and documentaries. It also covers television, radio, animation, games and new media.” It was founded in 1963 which makes it Australia's oldest film and media periodical. You can find it indexed and available for reservation and loan on the PMI's catalogue

So that's an overview of the some of the new additions to our periodical collection. Remember this is just the tip of the iceberg of the periodicals that the PMI collects. They are always a resource worth exploring, whether you are researching something specific or you are just looking for excellent reading material.

## HISTRIVIA: REFLECTIONS OF MYER IN THE 1970S

by Jerry Bell, PMI member

It is hard to imagine a time in the history of Australian retail when nothing was open on a Sunday, there was no late night shopping, the only credit card was Bankcard, and one major retailer, Myer, didn't even accept that, you couldn't buy meat on a Saturday, and the shops closed at exactly 11.27am on Saturday mornings. Of course, buying online was unheard of then. Welcome to retailing in Australia in the 1970s, which was, in reality, not so long ago.

This was the situation when I joined Myer in Brisbane in the 1970s to head up one of their buying teams. I had come from a department store group overseas that handled very much the same quality of lines and brands as Myer, so I immediately felt right at home.

Myer was a dominant force in Australian retail at that time. Its stores were situated in most of the major towns and shopping centres, it advertised strongly in the leading newspapers, its credit card was seen as a superior card to Bankcard, and it appealed very much to middle Australia..

Its biggest competitor, David Jones did not have the same coverage of stores, and other smaller groups such as Waltons and some smaller department stores were already beginning to lose market share preparatory to disappearing in the next decade. Meanwhile, the growth of the discount variety stores such as Target, Big W, and, to a lesser extent, K Mart, had not yet begun to impact on Myer, although they did so later on.

So, these were indeed, the glory days.

Myer was a stimulating and fun place to work. You were only as good as yesterday's sales, so if sales dropped for any reason, or last year's promotions were very successful, corrective action had to be taken immediately, and it was.

In those days, we remained true to founder Sidney Myer's "Double-fisted" philosophy. Drag customers into the stores with one fist with strong promotions, and drag them through beautiful, full price, merchandise with the other. And it worked!

Myer virtually "owned" pages 3, 5 and 7 (right hand pages are much better than left hand to advertise on) of certain newspapers, especially on Saturday, or Sunday if there was one, which was not always the case then. Monday was the major trading day, remembering that women made up the vast majority of Myer's customers, and their participation in the work force then was not nearly as much as it is now.

As well, as strongly supporting local manufacturers, Myer's buyers travelled across the world to find goods suitable for their customers than no one else stocked. We attended major trade fairs, sourced goods from smaller



countries such as Uruguay and Finland, and made early inroads into China. All this can be done online today.

The glory days peaked in the late 1980's. From the early 1990s onwards, a series of factors combined to make department store retailing much more difficult, culminating in the struggle they are having today. Hopefully, Myer will survive, but if it does, it will probably be in a very different form than we have been used to.

#### Addendum - Reflections of Myer Melbourne in the late 1980s

by Vanessa O'Farrell

I worked at Myer Melbourne for short time from late 1987 to mid 1988. I was employed at a Christmas casual, in the Record (Music) Department. As part of the Record Department, Fox FM merchandise had a small section in the department.

It was extremely busy department, I believe it was one of the busiest, behind the toy department. At the time CDs were the next big thing, but were slow to gain popularity, as they were considerably more expensive than records and cassettes. It is interesting noticing the resurgence in vinyls in recent years.

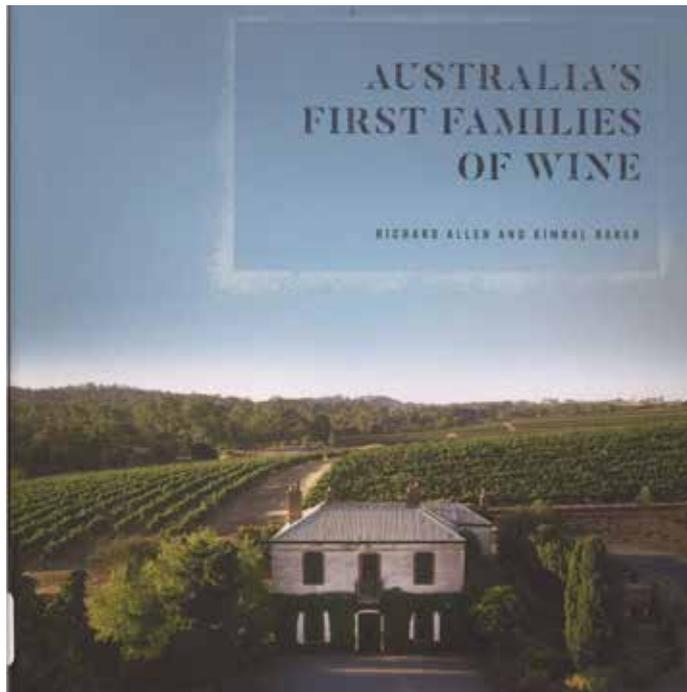
It was a great time working for Myer in the late 1980s and even though we were always busy, there was a lot of fun and laughter.

For further reading PMI has a copy of the history of Myer department stores - [Your store Myer the story of Australia's leading department store Stella M. Barber \(2008\)](#)

Image above: The Myer Emporium : Melbourne Australia Harold B Herbert (Harold Brocklebank), 1892-1945. (1934) (Source: SLV)

## New Books and Periodicals

### Australia's First Families of Wine / Richard Allen, Kimbal Baker

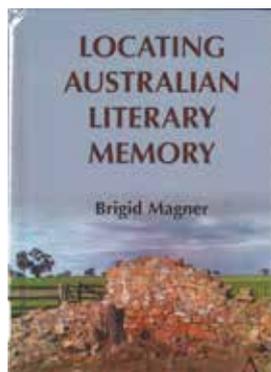


This book brings the people, their histories, their wineries and their vineyards to life.

Australia's First Families of Wine celebrates eleven of Australia's most iconic and important wine families and the vineyards and businesses they have built. With more than 5,000 hectares under vine, the families operate in sixteen wine-growing regions around Australia. They make many of Australia's most distinctive wines and all are household names: Brown Brothers, Tahbilk, Campbells, Yalumba, Henschke, d'Arenberg, Jim Barry, Taylors, McWilliam's, Tyrell's and Howard Park. Australia's First Families of Wine showcases the colourful histories of these spectacular vineyards and historic buildings, exploring the wine industry's transformation into an export-earning powerhouse and detailing the challenges of taking old family businesses into the 21st century.

### Locating Australian Literary Memory / Brigid Magner

Locating Australian Literary Memory' explores sites which are explicitly connected with Australian authors through material forms of commemoration such as houses, graves, statues and assorted artefacts. The focus is on eleven Australian authors – Adam Lindsay Gordon, Joseph Furphy, Henry Handel Richardson, Henry Lawson, A. B. 'Banjo' Paterson, Nan Chauncy, Katharine Susannah Prichard, Eleanor Dark, P. L.



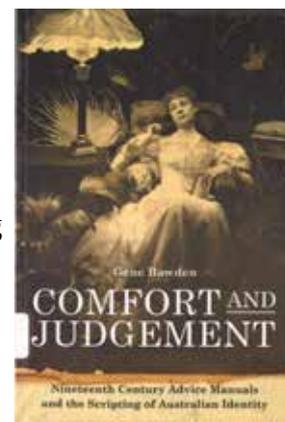
Travers, Kylie Tennant and David Unaipon. Each of these writers offers different perspectives on the conventions of literary commemoration from the nineteenth century onwards.

Australian heritage terrain has been thoroughly mapped by nationalist heritage practices which may no longer relate to contemporary values. As elsewhere, the focus is moving towards a greater recognition of the contributions of women authors, migrants, expatriates and First Nations peoples. There is an often unacknowledged dissonance between imported modes of commemoration and the unceded lands onto which they have been introduced. The designation of 'author countries' is especially problematic in a postcolonial context because it 'overwrites' Indigenous Country, obscuring it from the view of non-Indigenous Australians.

Rather than advocating for the creation of more literary monuments, or the further preservation of memorials that currently exist, 'Locating Australian Literary Memory' seeks to reveal the many blind spots, contradictions, challenges and eccentricities of literary commemoration in Australia. While observing the value of literary memorials and the voluntary labour that enables their construction, this book argues for an expanded repertoire of practices to recognise authors and storytellers who have been hitherto overlooked.

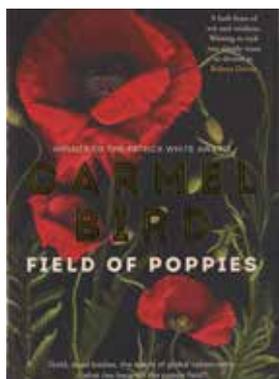
### Comfort and Judgement: Nineteenth Century Advice Manuals and the Scripting of Australian Identity / Gene Bawden

Since the earliest days of colonisation white Australians have sought solace within the domestic interior. Faced with a disconcerting and entirely alien environment, the replication of English interiors provided the colony's settler communities with the tether they sought to a guiding homeland and its governing rules of domestic practices. Though Australian identity is aligned, truthfully or otherwise, to the 'masculine' exterior – the bush, the outback and the beach – the 'feminised' interior provides an alternative site of identity, potentially closer to truth than the heroic fictions of colonial frontier narratives. Comfort and Judgement provides a richer, deeper understanding of the Australian home than has been realised before.



### Field of Poppies / Carmel Bird

Keen to escape the pressures of city life, Marsali Swift and her husband William are drawn to Listowel, a glorious historic mansion in the seemingly tranquil small town of Muckleton. There is time to read, garden, decorate, play chess and befriend the locals.



Yet one night Listowel is robbed, and soon after a neighbour is murdered. The violent history of the couple's adopted Goldfields town is revealed, and plans for a new goldmine emerge.

Subtle and sinister details unnerve : the novels that are studied at book club echo disappearances and colonial transgressions, a treasured copy painting painting

of Monet's Field of Poppies recalls loves and dreams but also times of war.

Atmospheric and beguiling this is a novel the seduces the reader with mysteries and beauties but also speaks of something much larger. The planet is in trouble, but is the human race up to the challenge? Are Marsali and William walking blindfold into a hostile world?

### 1919: The Year Things Fell Apart?

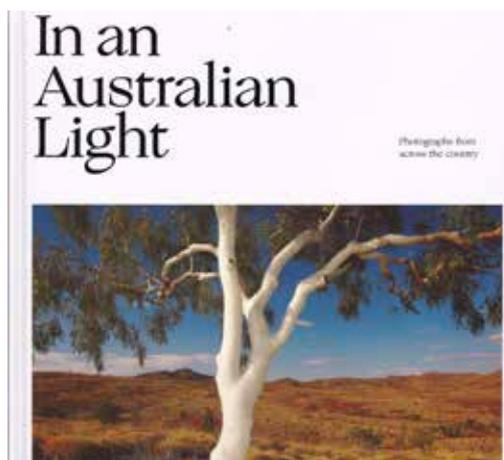
After the worst war in history – 'the war to end all wars' – there were hopes for a lasting peace and a better world.

1919 was to be the year for recovery, peace-making and the healing of wounds. Instead the world was afflicted by a terrible influenza pandemic that took more lives than the Great War itself. The huge death toll from the war and the pandemic excited fears of national decay. Soldiers returning home were often ill and restive, and sometimes radical and violent. Across the world there were race riots, prolonged industrial disputes, political protests, revolutions and counter-revolutions, and in Europe the first stirrings of fascism. At the Versailles Peace Conference, the victors' attempts to define the conditions for a lasting peace were compromised by recriminations and squabbling over the spoils of war. The world seemed to have climbed from the abyss into a nightmare. The sciences of war had more than demonstrated their lethal capabilities; the potentialities of Rutherford's 'splitting of the atom' and the import of Einstein's theory of relativity were yet only dimly realised.



The nine historians who examine 1919, the year that seemed to be falling apart, are all Fellows or Associates of SHAPS at the University of Melbourne: Roderick W. Home, Anthea Hyslop, John Lack, Ross McMullin, Val Noone, David Palmer, Carolyn Rasmussen, Tony Ward, and Fay Woodhouse.

### In an Australian Light



Australia is drenched in a light that is different from anywhere else in the world. A light so distinctive, we know it can only be of one place.

Imagined as a celebration of the particular beauty of Australian light, this generous publication roams the country, from rugged coastline to arid outback, to reveal how light shapes our wide, brown land. Wind-etched rocks, patterns in sand. Teal oceans. Surfers, slick in their wetsuits against the morning sun. A beach filled with people. A beach with no people. Rockpools. High-rise buildings against sand and sea. Golden sunsets over city skylines. Rays reaching through forest branches to frosted ground. Paddocks muted by mist, trees laden with luminous snow. The variation in the fall of light on our landscape seems limitless.

With an introduction by a galactic astrophysicist, In an Australian Light reminds us of the myriad ways we experience light in this vast and diverse land.

### Truganini: Journey through the apocalypse / Cassandra Pybus

Cassandra Pybus's ancestors told a story of an old Aboriginal woman who would wander across their farm on Bruny Island, in south-east Tasmania, in the 1850s and 1860s. As a child, Cassandra didn't know this woman was Truganini, and that Truganini was walking over the country of her clan, the Nuenonne.



For nearly seven decades, Truganini lived through a psychological and cultural shift more extreme than we can imagine. But her life was much more than a regrettable tragedy. Now Cassandra has examined the original eyewitness accounts to write Truganini's extraordinary story in full.

Hardly more than a child, Truganini managed to survive

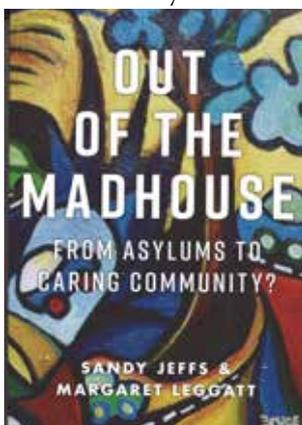
the devastation of the 1820s, when the clans of south-eastern Tasmania were all but extinguished. She spent five years on a journey around Tasmania, across rugged highlands and through barely penetrable forests, with George Augustus Robinson, the self-styled missionary who was collecting the survivors to send them into exile on Flinders Island. She has become an international icon for a monumental tragedy - the so-called extinction of the original people of Tasmania.

Truganini's story is inspiring and haunting - a journey through the apocalypse.

'For the first time a biographer who treats her with the insight and empathy she deserves. The result is a book of unquestionable national importance.' - PROFESSOR HENRY REYNOLDS, University of Tasmania

### **Out of the Madhouse: From asylums to caring community / Sandy Jeffs and Margaret Leggatt**

Larundel Psychiatric Hospital was 'the madhouse on the edge of town' – until the 1990s, a Melbourne cultural icon shrouded in mystery in the outer suburb of Bundoora.



What was it really like inside this madhouse?

This story takes us into the heart of Larundel through the voices of former inmates and staff, exposing the best and worst aspects of the mental institutions of the times. It shows the shifts

in psychiatric treatments, the social forces at play, and changes driving mental health policy. It explores what de-institutionalisation and 'care in the community' actually meant for those suffering mental illness, as well as for those treating, and caring for them.

What did we lose with Larundel's closure in 1999 and the move to acute psychiatric wards in general hospitals? The notion of asylum? Is the more recent notion of 'recovery' a hopeful signpost towards a brave new world for mental health?

The authors are Sandy Jeffs, a former inmate of Larundel, who became an advocate for her 'mad' comrades and is now a poet of distinction; and Margaret Leggatt, sociologist, occupational therapist and activist for the friends and families of mentally ill people.

'A significant and lively contribution to the history of mental health services in Australia, offering vital insights for the progress we must work for.' – Jack Heath, CEO, SANE Australia

### **Inside The Greens: The origins and future of the party, the people and the politics / Paddy Manning**

A penetrating examination of the history and future of

the Australian Greens

The re-election of a Coalition government, after a lost decade of policy backflips and leadership volatility, has redrawn the political landscape. With a record quarter of voters abandoning the major parties at the last election, what lies ahead for the Greens, the 'third force' in Australian politics? In a nation divided over global warming, rising inequality and national security, can they agitate for forward-thinking policy, or will a refusal to compromise prove a stumbling block?

**Inside  
the  
Greens**

The origins and future of the party,  
the people and the politics

**Paddy Manning**

Inside the Greens investigates the personalities, policies and turning points that have formed the party: from the fight to save Lake Pedder to the Stop Adani convoy; from heckling George W. Bush to the fateful decision to vote down the carbon tax; from party of protest to the balance of power in minority governments at state and federal level. It also exposes the Greens as they are today: a divided organisation reckoning with structural and strategic challenges. Beset by factional showdowns and suggestions of internal sabotage, can the party hang together? Has it strayed too far from grassroots activism? Can the Greens do politics differently and still succeed?

Journalist Paddy Manning draws on previously unrevealed archival material and interviews with party friends, foes and key figures – including Bob Brown, Christine Milne, Lee Rhiannon, Adam Bandt and Richard Di Natale – to weave a compulsively readable account of where the Greens are heading, and what that means for Australia.

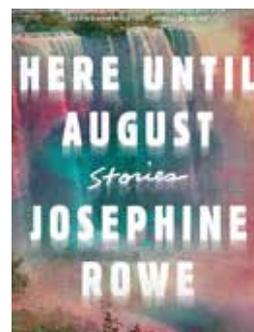
### **Here Until August / Josephine Rowe**

#### **Stella Prize Short List 2020**

A masterful collection of horizons and departures, heartbreak and seduction, from an internationally acclaimed Australian author.

These superbly crafted stories follow the fates of characters who, by choice or by force, are travelling beyond the boundaries of their known worlds. We meet them navigating reluctant partings and uncertain returns or biding the disquieting calm that often precedes decisive action.

An agoraphobic French émigré watches terrorist videos compulsively as she minds a dog named Chavez. A young couple weather the interiority of a Montreal winter, more attuned to the illicit goings-on of their neighbours than to their own hazy, unfolding

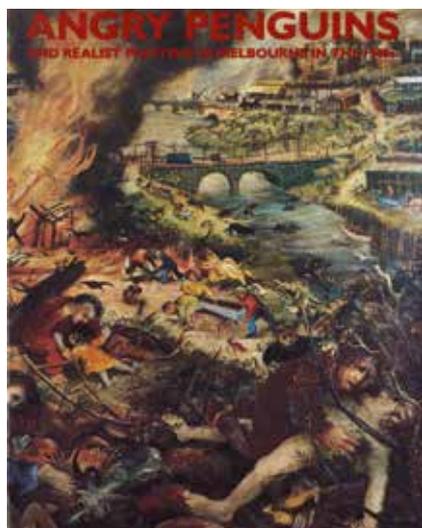


futures. A Western Australian family cross from mainland to island, from disaster towards a faltering redemption. Other stories play out in locations just beyond the brink of familiarity: flooded townships and distant lakes, sunlit woodlands or paths bright with ice, places of unpredictable access and spaces scrubbed from maps.

From the Catskills to the Snowy Mountains, the abandoned island outposts of Newfoundland to the sprawl of an Australian metropolis, this scintillating collection from one of Australia's most gifted writers shows us how the places we inhabit shape us in ways both remote and intimate.

## Angry Penguins: And realist painting in Melbourne in the 1940s / NGA

Exhibition catalogue celebrating an important social movement in Australian art and literature. Artists include Yosl Berger, Arthur Boyd, Noel Counihan, Joy Hester, Sidney Nolan, Vic O'Connor, John Percival, Albert Tucker and Danila Vassilief.



## Australian Geographic MARCH-APRIL 2020:

Big picture: Charred Isle [photograph of Kangaroo Island after the summer bushfires] / by Quentin Chester p16. The butterfly effect: in Brisbane's west, communities spanning generations come together to help save one of our endangered butterfly species [Birdwing butterflies: Northern birdwing, Cairns birdwing, Richmond birdwing] / Fiona McMillan p18. Bird nerd - Fire: Friend and foe [effect of bushfires on birds, examples including: Eastern bristlebird, orange-bellied parrot, black kite, brown falcon] / Peter Rowland p21. Traces: Sugar Wharf, Port Douglas p22. Snapshot: Front Page Hurley [Adelie Hurley, arguably Australia's first female press photographer] / Linda Brainwood p24. Aussie towns: Jericho, QLD [includes timeline of Jericho. Places of interest: Crystal Trumpeters, Jericho Drive-In Theatre, The Palace, pavers commemorating the centenary of Anzac along Darwin Street, Town mural on Darwin Street] / Bruce Elder p29. Defining moments in Australia history: First ANZAC Day [25 April 1916]

p30. The case of the roaring bunyip [look at the history of the Burrawung Bunyip] / Tim the Yowie Man p31. 2019/2020 Bushfire Crisis: How climate change ignited a monster / John Pickrell p32. Pearls of promise: a nascent pearl industry is offering hope to oyster farmers in New South Wales / Esther Beaton p38. 2019/2020 Bushfire Crisis: a black summer p44. 2019/2020 Bushfire Crisis: Unbearable loss [documents the koalas lost to the bushfires and preventing their extinction] / Karen McGhee p54. 2019/2020 Bushfire Crisis: This Island's life [Kangaroo Island] / Quentin Chester p65. Into the far west [Exploration of outback New South Wales] / Tim the Yowie Man p72. Cook: 250 years - Finding Endeavour [possible location of the shipwreck of the HMB Endeavour] / John Pickrell p84. Cook: 250 years - The faraway nearby [Agnes Water and the Town of 1770] / Phil Jarratt p92. The art of Australian Geographic [Watson's Pier by Ev Shipard] p130.

## FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY FAMILY HISTORY SOCIAL GROUP



Due to COVID-19 the book sale was regrettably cancelled. This will be re-scheduled to a date later this year.

 **ancestry Library™**

### Ancestry Library Edition: What's New!

#### New Convict, Criminal, Land & Wills

- Battle to Farm, 1919-1935 (Victoria, Australia)

#### New Birth, Marriage & Deaths

- Divorce Records, 1860-1940 (Victoria, Australia)
- Coroner Inquest Deposition Files, 1840-1925 (Victoria, Australia)

#### Updated Birth, Marriage & Death

- Find A Grave Index, 1800s-Current (Australia and New Zealand)



## Governance

The PMI is incorporated under the [Prahran 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.

## 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/Volunteer Coordinator)
- ▶ Vanessa O'Farrell (BA Hons); (GradDipLbryInfMgmt) (Marketing, Communications and Events Coordinator)

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? We also have a Blog!

Check us out at:



/PMILibrary



institutingthepast.wordpress.com

## 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 Road) – 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. There are 500 undercover paid car parking space at Prahran Square, located on Izette Street. Visit [www.chapelstreetparking.com.au/](http://www.chapelstreetparking.com.au/) 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 Road.

**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 #603 and #604 run along Commercial Road. You can alight at the Prahran Market stop.