

Number 217 – March-April 2006

The tractor on the left of this view of Boat Beach at Seal Rocks in the Myall Lakes National Park is used to launch fishing boats into the ocean. Photo R. Broomham

Phanfare is the newsletter of the Professional Historians Association (NSW) Inc and a public forum for Professional History.

Published six times a year
Annual subscription Email \$20 Hardcopy \$38.50

Articles, reviews, commentaries, letters and notices are welcome. Copy should be received by 6th of the first month of each issue (or telephone for late copy) Please email copy or supply on disk with hard copy attached.

Contact

Phanfare
GPO Box 2437
Sydney 2001

Enquiries Annette Salt
email phanfare@phansw.org.au

Phanfare 2004-5 is produced by the following editorial collectives:

Jan-Feb & July-Aug: Roslyn Burge, Mark Dunn, Shirley Fitzgerald,
Lisa Murray
Mar-Apr & Sept-Oct: Rosemary Broomham, Rosemary Kerr, Christa Ludlow,
Terri McCormack, Anne Smith
May-June & Nov-Dec: Carol Liston, Terry Kass, Katherine Knight

Disclaimer

Except for official announcements the Professional Historians Association (NSW) Inc accepts no responsibility for expressions of opinion contained in this publication.

The views expressed in articles, commentaries and letters are the personal views and opinions of the authors.

Copyright of this publication: PHA (NSW) Inc
Copyright of articles and commentaries: the respective authors
ISSN 0816-3774

PHA (NSW) contacts - see Directory at back of issue

PHANFARE No 217

March–April 2006

Contents

President’s Report 3

Articles

Touring Myall Lakes in 1909 5

Productivity Commission Report 7

Recollecting Rowe Street: A Memoir 10

Reviews – Events, Conferences

The Vikings- Myths and Legends 12

Bondi, a biography 15

Show and Tell 18

PHA Reports

State Records –
Community Advisory Committee 9

Library Report 20

What’s On 24

Notices

Do you have a Great Idea
for a Book? 14

Insurance News 23

Journal of Australian
Colonial History Vol 7 26

Produced by the Inner City Collective:
Rosemary Broomham, Rosemary Kerr,
Christa Ludlow and Terri McCormack

PRESIDENT’S REPORT

In an effort to keep the PHA’s image contemporary it was decided that the consultants’ register should have a fresh new look. I take this opportunity to remind members who are on the register to return their entry in the new format – as per notice sent to members on 12 March - to executive member Ron Ringer ron@syntaxwriting.com.au or if you prefer you can mail a CD to:

Ron Ringer, 31 John Street, Woollahra NSW 2025 before Easter.

It is hoped that these changes will help us market ourselves more effectively as professionals who have valuable services to offer.

We received a reply to our letter to the State Librarian conveying our concern about the changed opening hours at the Mitchell Library. Our representation does not seem to have had any impact. Members are invited to contact the executive if they wish to raise this issue further.

Our response to the Productivity Commission’s draft report, *Conservation of Australia’s Historic Heritage Places* was submitted and can now be viewed the Commission’s inquiry website at <http://www.pc.gov.au/inquiry/heritage/index.html>. The executive was pleased that member Christa Ludlow was willing to take on the task of writing our submission so we could provide a response that adequately dealt with a range of complex issues relating to the proposed changes to heritage legislation and management.

Another important initiative in the last month has been the establishment of a PHA committee to investigate updating and enlarging the Register of Historic Places and Objects (ROHPO) that was established some years ago. (See <http://www.phansw.org.au/register.html>)

This new committee met in February and we look forward to hearing news of their initiatives.

The date for this year's AGM has been tentatively set for 12 August. More details will be announced later in the year. It is

not too early to start considering whether you might enjoy the challenge of being part of our vibrant executive. My three-year term of office ends at this meeting so we will be looking for a new president and a new secretary. If you think you can contribute something to the PHA, nominate for the executive. You will be welcomed with open arms.

Pauline Curby President



This bend in the Myall River leads to Tamaboi, the narrow reach that is the premium position for catching prawns as they move out of the Broadwater Lake on their way to the sea to spawn. Most of the fishermen who chased the prawns built huts here where they stayed during the best prawning times and stored their gear. Prawning in the area now covered by the Myall Lakes National Park started in the 1920s. Photo R. Broomham

TOURING MYALL LAKES IN 1909

Rosemary Broomham

The New South Wales Government Tourist Bureau began publicising the Myall Lakes in 1909, when it described the district as ‘a water-maze of great compass and exquisite beauty’. Its book, *The Great Lakes Route: Port Stephens*, covered the coastal strip from Port Stephens to Taree and identified two main routes to the lakes district. Another contemporary tour guide was called *The Lovely Lakes District (The Killarney of Australia)*.¹

Excursionists may travel either direct by steamer from Sydney to the Port, where there is a connection with the launch service of the lakes; or, if desirous of avoiding the ocean trip, they may journey to Newcastle by rail, and proceed by coach and launch.²

The tourists who chose to travel by sea took the modern Newcastle and Hunter River Steamship Company's *TSS Karuah* with two-berth cabins, saloon dining and electric light. This vessel left Sydney at 6 pm every Tuesday or 3 pm every Saturday and arrived in Nelson Bay at dawn after calling in at Newcastle. On the lakes themselves the steamship company offered the express passenger motor launch *Myall* and the cargo steam launch *Grace* but there were many other passenger boats offering their services.



Coaches carry the tourist party up one of the steep hairpin bends on Mayers Hill between Bulahdelah and Bungwahl on the way to Forster. ‘The Great Lakes Route: Port Stephens’, Government Tourist Bureau ML SLNSW

It is the description of the overland journey that makes the modern traveller quail. The train left Sydney at 9.05 am and arrived in Newcastle at 12.45 pm. Those wishing to travel as far as possible on the lakes would take a horse-drawn coach from Newcastle to Salt Ash at the head of the Tilligerry Creek that ran into Nelson Bay. These travellers then changed to a larger launch at Tea Gardens. People venturing over the whole 127 miles from Newcastle to Taree would cover 83 of those miles by ‘swift steam and motor launches’ and 44 by ‘commodious coaches’. The trip to the Forster-Tuncurry area could be accomplished ‘in daylight in 36 hours’, with overnight stays in high-quality provincial accommodation places such as the Port Stephens and Tea Gardens Hotels at Tea Gardens.



After passing the village of Bungwahl, tourists pause to enjoy the view of Smiths Lake, where coach owner J. A. Godwin had his accommodation house.. ‘The Great Lakes Route: Port Stephens’, Government Tourist Bureau ML SLNSW

After the tourists had covered the 67-mile tour of the Myall Lakes from Tea Gardens to Bungwahl, Godwin’s coach was waiting to carry them a further eight miles to his Accommodation House overlooking Smiths Lake at Bungwahl. Travelling further via Charlotte Bay Creek, they enjoyed the picturesque drive that skirts the shores of Smiths and Wallis Lakes on the way to Cape Hawke or Forster-Tuncurry. With some changes, this road is now the Lakes Way.³



This group, photographed by the Government Tourist Bureau in 1909 was enjoying afternoon tea while cruising Myall Lakes on the launch Replica. GPO Collection, SLNSW

¹ Government Tourist Bureau, *The Great Lakes Route: Port Stephens*, Government Printer, Sydney, 1909; T. W. Comyns, *All About the Lovely Lakes District (The Killarney of Australia), and the Karuah and Myall Rivers*, Self-Published, 1909

² Government Tourist Bureau, op cit, p 3

³ This text and the accompanying pictures are part of research for the Myall Lakes National Park, Oral History Project

FUTURE DIRECTIONS FOR AUSTRALIA'S HERITAGE PLACES? – THE PRODUCTIVITY COMMISSION DRAFT REPORT

Christa Ludlow

In December 2005 a draft report to the Federal Treasurer was produced by the Productivity Commission, which had been directed to examine “the main pressures on the conservation of historic heritage places”, the “economic, social and environmental benefits and costs” of such conservation, and “emerging technological, economic, demographic, environmental and social trends that offer potential new approaches” among other matters. The Productivity Commission is the Australian Government’s principal review and advisory body on microeconomic policy and regulation, and consults public inquiries into economic and social issues.

Arguably there has not been such a significant national inquiry into heritage in Australia since the Hope report in 1973. The PHA therefore regarded it as immensely significant for the future of heritage conservation in Australia. The Terms of Reference recognize that conservation of heritage places is under pressure; that there is a three-tier system in place with some duplication of effort; that research into heritage management, including economic factors, is lacking in Australia; and there are impediments and incentives which need investigation.

Therefore it came as a great disappointment that the Productivity Commission largely focused on a very narrow line of inquiry, namely, the rights of private property owners, the abolition of statutory protection and the introduction of conservation agreements. The proposal which received the most attention was the recommendation that heritage places be protected by Governments only where a conservation agreement had been entered into with the property owner and only remain on that list while the agreement was in force. The agreement would require conservation of the property and provide a financial incentive for the owner, however the arrangement would be voluntary on the part of the property owner and would not survive a change of ownership. If the owner did not agree to this arrangement the only alternative would be for the Government to purchase the property or find another property.

The PHA opposes such a wholesale change to heritage protection in Australia for the following main reasons:

- it removes any incentive for heritage authorities to identify, research or list heritage items;
- the likelihood that governments could or would fully compensate an owner for the loss of development opportunity is remote;
- owners who might anyway be inclined to protect their property in return for some financial incentive, will be poorly compensated in contrast to an owner seeking full commercial value for a property they see only as a commodity. Thus those who sacrifice the most and provide the greatest benefit for the community will receive the least reward;

- those items for which it is not possible to reach agreement will be destroyed or fall into decline because there will be no or limited protection without an agreement;
- if a property is not listed because there is no agreement in place, there will be no requirement for the relevant heritage agency to be notified before any development, thus creating a greater risk of the secret destruction of heritage items;
- the proposed agreements do not run with the land, but must be renegotiated when the property changes hands. This will incur additional costs and is impractical to monitor;
- existing heritage lists which inform us about the state of our heritage, help to rank heritage significance, and act as a guides for planning and future research, will instead become mere ledgers of those properties it was economically possible to preserve, and their market value.

Nevertheless the PHA would support a plan to provide greater financial incentives and funds for conservation so that those owners who are willing to conserve their heritage property receive some recognition of their contribution to Australia's historic environment.

Regrettably, the Draft Report also showed a lack of research into the principles, history and practice of heritage assessment. It relied heavily on submissions, including anecdotal evidence; it did not refer to key works or scholarship; and it made sweeping negative statements about methods of heritage assessment without pointing to supporting evidence; for example, stating that the assessment of heritage significance was "inevitably subjective" and claiming that there was "little effective restraint" upon the protection of all heritage properties irrespective of the degree of significance.

While the Draft Report did identify the lack of funding for heritage, it did not investigate new or alternative sources of funding for heritage so as to compensative or provide incentives to private owners. Nor did it investigate the costs of its own recommended conservation agreements. In addition, the recommendations appeared to be based on a view that heritage "values" are transferable between properties; they did not recognize a key principle of the Burra Charter, that the intrinsic cultural significance of a place is unique to that place.

The PHA has made a written submission to the Productivity Commission on the draft report. This and other submissions can be viewed on its website at www.pc.gov.au/inquiry/heritage/index.html. The final report is due to be presented by 6 April 2006.

As the Commission notes, there is little statistical information available on how the heritage system works. Given this context, it is surely premature to recommend a policy that will abandon the practice and principles developed over many years both here and overseas. The proposed approach will have serious ramifications for our built environment, our understanding of our history and our sense of identity both now and in the future. Once demolished, built heritage cannot be recovered.

It is to be noted that submissions by heritage agencies and organizations on the Draft Report were almost invariably negative. It is unfortunate that a rare opportunity to investigate and invigorate Australia's heritage industry may have been missed; the focus now must be on ensuring that it does not decline, as a result of these proposals.

STATE RECORDS – COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE – 27 FEBRUARY 2006

Website additions - Insolvency Records – index covers the years 1842-87. Surnames A-H in the index were compiled by Heather Garnsey and Martyn Killion of SAG. Bankruptcy records 1888-1928 are to be indexed. Photo Investigator - images of Soldier Settlement scheme of interest for local history.

- **Conversion of Concise Guide Series to Archives Investigator** - There are 14,818 series in the Concise Guild and 7,619 series have been converted.
- **The Convict Guide** should be published in the next 4-6 weeks.
- **Exhibitions - Romance & Industry: images from the NSW railways** continues until the end of June. An exhibition based on photographs held in the files of the former *Aborigines Welfare Board from 1924 to 1961* will be held from July 2006. An exhibition celebrating the *75th anniversary of the Sydney Harbour Bridge* will be presented from November 2006 to April 2007 in conjunction with Museum of Sydney.
- **Guide to State Archives relating to Responsible Government** – The Guide was launched by Rodney Cavalier (Chair Committee for Sesqui Centenary of Responsible Government) at a function at State Records on 7 March. **Price** = \$35.00 **By mail** = \$47.00 (includes p&p)
- **Proposed State Records Foundation** – will allow State Records to accept funds to support its work.
- **Administrative History** – Peter Tyler has completed volume 2 (titled ‘Humble and Obedient Servants’) – to be published later in 2006.
- Convict records were inscribed in **UNESCO Memory of the World**.
- **Dictionary of Sydney** is a joint project between the City of Sydney, UTS, The University of Sydney, the State Library and State Records.
- **100th Anniversary of Local Government Act in 2006** – and Archives in Brief is in preparation.
- **History Fellowship to Dr Shirley Fitzgerald** – the Royal Australian Historical Society will present a History Fellowship to the Chair of State Records and the City of Sydney Historian on 28 March 2006.

Heritage Festival 2006 (1-16 April)

- 1. Joint SRNSW/NAA tour** A series of talks at venues along the Far North Coast of NSW (including Tweed Heads, Lismore, Grafton and Coffs Harbour) in conjunction with the National Archives of Australia - 3-7 April
- 2. Joint SRNSW/NAA tour** A series of talks at various venues along the Far North Coast of NSW (including Tweed Heads, Lismore, Grafton and Coffs Harbour) in conjunction with the National Archives of Australia - 3-7 April
- 3. What's held at SRC** An overview of the copied records available at The Rocks - 5 April (Sydney Records Centre) 10.30-12.30
- 4. Conserving and protecting your records** Tips from our conservator on looking after paper and photographic records, including a tour of the conservation lab - 6 April (Western Sydney Records Centre) 10.30-12.30

RECOLLECTING ROWE STREET: A MEMOIR

Rosemary Broomham

An advertisement in *Spectrum* inspired me to go to this exhibition at Customs House but, mainly, I was impelled to see it because I often went to Rowe Street in an earlier life. A fellow under-graduate, whose mother had a jewellery shop there, introduced me to Rowe Street in the late 1950s. As I learnt from the display, Anna-Louise Alma established her business at 21 Rowe Street in 1948 as Ala Buttons and Ornaments. When I met her, I did not fully understand, that Anna-Louise Alma was a Parisian but I did know that she and her daughter were exotic and fascinating. Rowe Street too, was quite extraordinary when compared with the safe but stodgy suburb of my upbringing; it offered me a glimpse of another world.



The girl facing us was an art student photographed with others in Rowe Street by Pix in 1953. Her jeans would have been a rare sight on the Sydney Uni campus four years later. ABC Hindsight

Rowe Street ran from almost opposite the GPO in Pitt Street to Castlereagh Street where it came out next to the Hotel Australia. Sydney then was a fairly grey old town and my contemporaries and I were impecunious to say the least. We certainly did not buy hats from Rowe Street's exclusive milliners. If we needed a hat, we would go to June Millinery to buy the shape and the trimmings and assemble them ourselves. We did not wear hats though. We wore full skirts with wide belts and cotton blouses, or princess-line frocks with little bolero jackets in the same material; or straight skirts in winter with jumpers; or unsuitably adult suits that our mothers thought appropriate. I personally took to making my own clothes to avoid my mother's fashion sense. All students began Uni with a sturdy briefcase, a more grown-up version of the Globite school cases we had

lugged around for years. But by the time we reached third year, my friends and I thought it more sophisticated to carry our folders and books on one arm, rather like an experienced waiter might carry plates of food.

When we were in Rowe Street, we frequented the coffee shop towards the Pitt Street end where we either drank strong bitter espresso black coffee or Vienna coffee, which was coated with a thick layer of cream. We looked into the Notanda Gallery and the Roycroft Bookshop; and we dallied in front of all the window displays. But the shop that most intrigued me was probably Margaret Jaye's decorating shop where imported china, porcelain and Italian glass could be found. It was my first sight of Wedgwood jasperware. It seemed to me that these kinds of luxury goods were just starting to come into the country after World War 2 and the

post-war rationing. But given that I had only recently left school where I did not think about such things at all and had no purchasing power, I may be mistaken about the timing. However, whether such objects were unusual or not, Rowe Street was the place we visited when seeking twenty-first birthday presents. Thanks to my friends' generosity, I have several pairs of demi-tasse – Wedgwood and Rosenthal – from that shop.

The other place we visited regularly was Anna-Louise Alma's jewellery shop where we mostly just admired the merchandise. Some of us acquired a pair of the tiny silver fleur-de-lis earrings that were her trademark at that time. When she entered a partnership with Estonian jeweller Niina Ots in 1957, the shop also sold individually designed modern jewellery, mainly in sterling silver with semi-precious stones. It acquired a new trademark too – a flat-topped A with L above the cross-stroke and another A below it. This can be seen in one or two of the late-1950s street scenes in the exhibition. The jewellery made a lasting impression on me, so much so that I chose two engagement rings there – in different decades. The first one shocked my parents who referred to that style of ring as a knuckle-duster, and confounded onlookers, who were accustomed to calculating the value of a person's engagement ring from the size of the diamond. I still have those rings, and another with my birthstone. The interest was quite long lived as I later collected others from other places but I no longer load my fingers down with them the way I did in the 1970s.



In this Pix photo Anna-Louise Alma shows a hand-painted scarf to Bettina Welch who was a well-known actress. ABC Hindsight

It must be obvious that I found the exhibition 'Memory Lane – Recollecting Rowe Street' absolutely fascinating. It really carried me back to the simple pleasures of my youth. Having been dismembered in 1973 together with the Australia Hotel, to make way for Harry Seidler's MLC building, Rowe Street is no longer a place one might walk past or through. So there is nothing to jog the memory, except the small luxurious items that came from its boutiques. Another onlooker, who was carefully examining the exhibition showcases about some of the shops, was similarly carried back into the past. He told me that his mother was 'a smoker, God rest her soul!' and she used to go to Rowe Street for hand-painted matchbox covers. An artist there would paint anything she wanted on them. Thus armed with this elegant accessory, and dressed to the nines, for a little moment of luxury she would go to the very expensive Gresham Hotel, and sit there slowly sipping one drink while lighting her cigarettes with the beautifully decorated matchbox.

Nicola Teffer curated the exhibition 'Memory Lane - Recollecting Rowe Street', which has been produced by the City of Sydney in collaboration with the Rowe Street Society.

THE VIKINGS - MYTHS AND LEGENDS

Terri McCormack

Even the curator of the current Vikings exhibition at the Australian National Maritime Museum is surprised at its popularity. In 793 AD raiders from the Scandanavian region savagely attacked the monastery of Lindisfarne on the north-east coast of England. By the end of 11th century, the Viking Age was over, swallowed up by Christianity. Despite being a transient culture that left no cities, monuments, or writing, the charisma of these looting and pillaging Norsemen has resonated through the centuries. With the revival of Scandanavian nationalism, the nineteenth century romanticised their exploits and in the twentieth century film-makers, writers, music-makers and sports teams borrowed imagery from the Vikings. Think Kirk Douglas in *The Vikings*, Sidney Poitier in *The Long Ships*, J.R.R.Tolkien's *Lord of the Rings*, Wagner's *Ring Cycle*, and the Canberra Raiders. Historical re-enactments are popular and are taken very seriously with much attention paid to the authenticity of chain-mail suits of armour and hand-forged helmets, swords and axes. Unhappily, though, much of what we think we know about the Vikings is mere nineteenth century invention.

Many of my preconceptions about Vikings - and I have a Scandanavian background - were shown to be wrong at a seminar coinciding with the opening of the exhibition in December 2005. The Viking have had a bad press - all that raping, burning, and pillaging - because what we know about them comes from their enemies. The Vikings left no written records - their Norse sagas were written decades later - and so we are dependent on recent archaeological work for a more balanced view. The speakers at the seminar were Curator Patricia Miles, Dr Katrina Burge, Lecturer of Viking Studies at Melbourne University, Murray Dahm, military historian, and Professor Sandra Bowdler, Chair of Archaeology at the University of Western Australia. By the end of the day and after viewing the exhibition (with its wonderful objects from Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Scotland, and England), I was more enlightened about my ancestors. So let's look at some of the facts and fictions of Viking culture.

The Horned Helmet

We all know what Vikings looked like from such popular cultural images as Wagner's operas and the cartoon strip *Hagar the Horrible*. Wrong, wrong, wrong! There is no archaeological evidence for a horned or winged helmet used in Viking warfare. It is thought to be a 19th century invention. In fact no complete representation of a helmet has been unearthed, probably because they passed from father to son, as did all their weaponry, and none have been left lying around the battlefields. It's far less spectacular for the re-enactors but the most likely helmet was the one pictured at



left, with a long protective nose-piece. The Vikings other distinctive piece of battle-gear was the shield, used in overlapping formation in tightly packed and impenetrable ranks of men.

To go *i-viking*

The term Viking is now used for all Scandinavians of the Viking Age. Originally, the term *vikingr* was used only for those who went *i viking* - raiding and plundering. This was a seasonal activity at the end of harvest usually organised by a regional nobleman in one of the many scattered communities who called on local freemen and slaves to accompany him and bring all their own gear. Raiding expeditions were just one aspect of their complex society. As this exhibition shows so clearly, Vikings were also skilled traders, farmers, settlers, shipbuilders, and craftsmen who produced exquisite jewellery, clothing, and metal-work.

**Going berserk**

Another feature of the Viking raiding party was the berserker, a warrior who worked himself up into a frenzy before battle. One can be seen at left, biting his shield in anticipation. This is one of two original Lewis chessmen lent for display. These world-renowned figures were carved from walrus ivory and found on Scottish Isle of Lewis in the 19th century.

Discoverers of the New World

Yes, Eric the Red did get to North America before Columbus but the western exploration was done in stages, not in one great raiding expedition. The Faroe Islands and Iceland were settled Scandinavian communities well before the Vikings set out to settle on Greenland and thence on to the New World. It is not known how far down the American coast they sailed but reports of a Viking presence in Minnesota can be discounted. But the Vikings were great mariners. From the 8th to the 11th centuries they spread to the furthest

reaches of the known world. As well as being the first Europeans in North America, different groups of Vikings plundered swathes of territory and created settlements as far south as North Africa and eastward across Russia to Baghdad.

The Burning Boat

We all have images of a Viking funeral with the burning boat setting off for Valhalla. Another myth, I'm afraid, recorded in hindsight by the Norse sagas and kept alive by Richard Wagner. No archaeological evidence has been found for such a practice. The Vikings were however, skilled shipbuilders and their wooden double-ended shallow-draft ships, powered by oars and sail, were considered one of their great achievements.

So familiar and yet unknown

We're probably unaware of how much of Old Norse has penetrated the English language: the days of the week for instance are named after Nordic gods, and words like bread, egg, happy, die, window, husband, anger are all Nordic. And yet there is so much we don't know about these seafaring farmers. Archaeology has solved many puzzles and shot down many myths but there is still much to discover. The exhibition at the Maritime Museum with its brilliant display of domestic artefacts as well as instruments of war gives us a wider perspective of an ordered society with an appreciation of finer things. But I suspect that it's the plundering and pillaging that will continue to appeal, particularly to Western masculinity, and that a surprising number of people would really like to go *i-viking* in the off season.

Do you have a Great Idea for a Book?

Allen and Unwin is pleased to offer the Iremonger Award for Writing on Public Issues, an award for non-fiction writers of political, social and cultural commentary that deals with contemporary issues and contributes to public debate. On offer is prize money of \$10,000, guaranteed publication, royalties on book sales and editorial support to develop your proposal.

John Iremonger published many groundbreaking books and leading Australian writers and was integral to the establishment of Allen and Unwin's reputation as a leading Australian publisher. He also founded the independent publishing house Hale and Iremonger and was Director at Melbourne University Press.

Your entry must be lodged by 25 August 2006 and must contain a proposal comprising a one page description of the work, a table of contents, an author biography, a comment on the targeted readership and two sample chapters. Complete manuscripts will not be accepted and entries will not be returned. There is a 90,000 maximum word limit. It must be an original work, entirely by the entrant, in English and with contemporary Australian relevance. An entry fee of \$20 applies. The winner will be announced in December 2006.

Previous winners – Bob Burton "Inside Spin" on the PR industry in Australia and Brendan Gleeson "Australian Heartlands" an exploration of urbanized Australia and a plea for the suburbs.

For further information see www.allenandunwin.com <<http://www.allenandunwin.com/>> or contact Rebecca Kaiser, Managing Editor RebeccaK@allenandunwin.com or Tel (02) 8425 0123

BONDI, A BIOGRAPHY

Rosemary Kerr

As the city basked in the last rays of summer sun, I headed to the Museum of Sydney to visit the Historic Houses Trust's exhibition devoted to iconic Bondi Beach. The exhibition occupied just one room, but managed to immerse visitors in the beach's life story highlighting, via text, photographs, memorabilia and audio-visual displays, the events, people and stories that have shaped the locality's identity. An accompanying booklet offers some further exploration of the factors that contributed to Bondi's iconic status as Australia's most famous beach.

While the exhibition could be viewed chronologically, with a time line running around the perimeter of the room highlighting key dates and events, it was easy, and more enjoyable, to be distracted by photos and exhibits with their own story attached. Starting at the very beginning, the exhibition featured a section on the geological and topographical evolution of the area that at one time consisted of a series of lagoons and of course, the Hawkesbury sandstone, of which the beach is largely composed. The environment supported a large Aboriginal population, who also used the area for ceremonial purposes for over 20,000 years. Evidence of the Aboriginal presence remains in the rock carvings on the northern cliffs now occupied by the Bondi Beach Golf Club. The pictures brought back memories of one of my earliest school excursions to view these carvings.

Controversy and debate have played a major role in Bondi's history and one of the earliest and most fundamental debates was over public versus private ownership of the beach itself. In fact, for much of the nineteenth century, the beach remained privately owned, the title held by the grantees and subsequent purchasers of the land surrounding and including the beach. Despite several legal disputes over the benefits of public ownership in the 1850s, it was not until 1885 that the beach was transferred to Waverley Council's control, opening the beach to the public.

Not long thereafter another controversy erupted over the proposed sewage outfall at Bondi. Aimed at combating "the pestilence that walketh in darkness", the plan to channel sewage into the ocean off Bondi Beach prompted a public outcry. Nevertheless, the plan went ahead in 1889. Ironically, from the late nineteenth century onwards, the beach was promoted as a place of health and wellbeing in contrast to the polluted city centre. A property boom occurred in Bondi in 1900, coinciding with the outbreak of plague in the inner city as land developers exploited the public's concerns with health and hygiene to promote the suburb. By the 1970s the issue of pollution had tarnished Bondi's reputation as its water quality had reached an all-time low due to the sewage outfall. Then, when the deep-water ocean sewage outfall was introduced in 1991, it sparked a revival and an immediate rise in real estate prices.⁴ Who said 'history never repeats'?

Of course, no story of a Sydney beach would be complete without mention of the battle between the desire for the natural enjoyment of the beach and those who feared for the decline of moral standards as bathing costumes diminished in size. In one of the story boards, credit is given to our own Pauline Curby, who, in her history of Manly, debunked one of the longstanding urban myths of beach culture. Most accounts credit William Gocher, a Manly resident, with issuing an unanswered challenge to authorities in 1907 by swimming at Manly Beach outside the prescribed hours in defiance of Council by-laws, thus instigating the legalisation of all-day bathing. Curby's work points out that Gocher's role was greatly exaggerated by an article in the Daily Telegraph and another written by Gocher himself. Though light on details, these sources began the myth that has been perpetuated by repetition and embellishment.⁵



A display of swimwear, including some early versions of Speedos, made me cringe as I imagined the feeling of wet woollen bathers on a hot summer's day. Topless bathing for men only became acceptable in the late 1930s. Even in 1960, sculptures of the Two Mermaids by artist, Lyall Randolph, which sat on a large rock near Ben Buckler at the northern end of the beach provoked an outcry from the Catholic Church as they

were modelled on two live women, naked from the waist up. The mermaids remained, however, until one was claimed by the ravages of the elements, disappearing into the sea. Her twin, who was on display, now resides inside Waverley Library, near the Local History Collection.

Standing out at the centre of the exhibition was the sign that stood for many years outside the kiosk in the middle of the beach, beckoning beach-goers to hire deckchairs (with or without head shades), wigwams, surfboards and rubber floats. The first deckchair hire licence was granted in 1914; then Stan McDonald took it over in 1933, expanding the merchandise on offer. The sign also advertised "Pinke Zink" and "Paterson's Vitasun Oil". Now that really took me back to good ol' 1970s - the days before Factor 30+ sunscreen and Cancer Council T-shirts. I remember well seeing many a bronzed body glistening after being sprayed from head to toe with the oil by the beach-hire attendant, using a pressure pack. The intention of course was to make you burn (and tan) all the faster, rather than any real concern with UV protection.

One of the most enjoyable aspects of the exhibition was the story boards on local characters, including "Gelnite Jack" Murray, famous for his explosive antics on outback car trials in the 1950's, blowing up dunnies and bush roads. Murray owned a garage in Curlewis Street, near the beach and often terrorised locals by driving as if he was perpetually in a car rally. My favourite story, though, was of Robert "Nosey Bob" Howard, a handsome cab driver, who, in the 1870s, lived in a cottage at the northern end of the beach, where the North Bondi R.S.L. now stands. Howard was one of the first permanent residents of the suburb, however, an accident, whereby he was kicked in the face by a horse, left him horribly disfigured.

Following the accident, Howard became a hangman in Mudgee, then officially in Sydney until 1904. Shunned by society, he lived a secluded life in Bondi, where even the local hotel proprietor refused to serve him. To overcome that obstacle, Howard trained his horse to walk to the hotel with empty cans, which the publican would fill with beer then send the horse on its way home.

At the end of the room a large screen showed local residents talking about life in Bondi and what it means to them. Even in its recent history, Bondi has remained contested ground as evidenced by protests by locals over the proposed extension of the railway line to the beach, opposition to the beach volleyball stadium built for the 2000 Olympics, and a general resistance to Gold Coast style overdevelopment. While developers accuse locals of trying to keep the beach to themselves, locals battle against what they see as commercialisation of public property. If not for this fierce protectiveness, Bondi may look very different today as the image of one proposal for redevelopment in the 1970s showed - complete with skyscrapers and a wave-like complex of buildings encroaching ever closer to the beachfront.

Many Sydneysiders, especially those devoted to the Northern beaches would consider Bondi unworthy of all the attention it draws and no doubt there are several more beautiful beaches around. Still, Bondi's story is a fascinating and colourful one and provides an insight into Australian culture and society, particularly from the 1920s onwards. While the advertisements for the exhibition promised an exploration of why Bondi, of all beaches, achieved such fame, both locally and internationally, I didn't feel that this was achieved by the exhibition itself, so that the accompanying brochure was needed to fill out that side of the story. Nevertheless, overall, the exhibition provided a good combination of text, images, memorabilia and audio-visual material, with the emphasis on drawing out a number of "stories" that visitors could dip into, depending on what caught the eye. As someone who has grown up in the area and for whom Bondi Beach was a big part of life, there were plenty of nostalgic moments evoked by this exhibition as well as a few revelations.



Bondi, a biography: Exhibition – Museum of Sydney 17 December 2005-19 March 2006
Images from the Bondi Beach Picture Galleries at www.voyeurmagic.com.au/gallery.htm

SHOW AND TELL, PHA CPD - 15 FEBRUARY 2006

Roslyn Burge

It was the last week of the outdoor cinema in Farm Cove and there was a sense of summer vanishing – which might explain why so few members took advantage of this voyeuristic evening at History House to hear members talk about their projects.

Beverley Earnshaw spoke about the sculptor, William Priestley MacIntosh. Her book on MacIntosh (*An Australian Sculptor: William Priestly MacIntosh*) was published by the Kogarah Historical Society in 2004 and reviewed in the March/April 2005 edition of *Phanfare* by Lisa Murray. As well as her encyclopaedic knowledge of MacIntosh Beverley illustrated her talk with numerous images of his work: the explorer statues in niches on the Lands Department Building in Bridge Street; the cluster of figures by the York Street entrance to the Queen Victoria Building; and the dazzling decorations on the Technical College Building in Ultimo where monitor lizards entwine above the entrance. The brickwork and encrustations on the Technical College are among my favourites and in talking about MacIntosh's sculptures, which we pass by unnoticed, Beverley indirectly reminded us not only of the importance of looking up but also how unadorned much of the architecture of the city is.

Ian Jack then talked about his research into the history of 'Clarendon', the house which gives its name to the area near Richmond - and the airbase – and which was understood to be constructed about 1835. Ian's research has led him to believe the house was built much earlier and Clarendon is probably the earliest surviving private two storied house in Australia. A mix of images and human tragedy in Ian's telling of the story of 'Clarendon' captured everyone's attention and stilled this reviewer's pen. Ian will be giving a much more extensive paper on 'Clarendon' at the RAHS Annual General Meeting on 2 May.

Shirley Fitzgerald told us about The Dictionary of Sydney - which occupies much of her time. Supported by a \$1 million ARC grant, the Dictionary of Sydney is a Dictionary in cyberspace. Still in its infancy with many hurdles to overcome it is a challenging project. As well as developing an understanding of the technological aspects of an electronic platform for the Dictionary, Shirley talked about the vast numbers of people who have volunteered to contribute its contents and the need to find a smooth way of managing these contributors and their material. The Dictionary will cover a diverse range of subjects across the metropolitan area – places, people, structures and a list of suburbs alone has produced 1,500 names. All entries will be edited before inclusion on the Dictionary site.

www.dictionaryofsydney.com.au

Margo Beasley has been appointed the City of Sydney Oral Historian, a position unique in Local Government in NSW. She spoke about the need to assess the taped interviews already held at the City of Sydney and develop a policy on accessibility. Many of these recordings have been made as a subsidiary part of another project, whether in support of publications or

conservation management plans with an absence of obligatory mechanisms for maintaining these recordings. A number of geographically based or labour history oral history projects have been completed within the City by a number of organizations and Margo sees part of her role as asking which projects have been done and assessing what can be done that is different to add to that body of work. She hopes to undertake a series of pilot programs on organizations and the structure of the CBD and another tier – the local community or village – both of which will reflect the city and urban life more broadly.

mbeasley@cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au

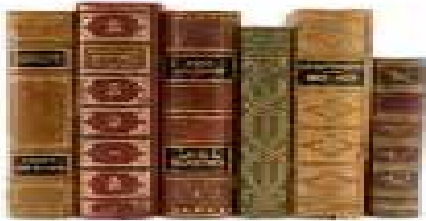
Peter Tyler was the final speaker and caught everyone's attention by his passing reference to starting that day with a poetic reference! In celebration of the 150th anniversary of responsible government in NSW a number of publications have been commissioned, including volume two of the administrative history of NSW from 1901 to 1960 which Peter has recently completed. Peter spoke about the complexities of the brief, the immense amount of material to be compiled into a publication of 80,000 words. Among the issues to consider – at the beginning of his period there were 9 ministerial portfolios, by 1960 there were 16; the population increased dramatically in this time and became more demanding; the welfare state developed; and 18 different men were Premier. It was to be a chronological narrative with recurrent themes and Peter decided he would deal only with those bodies covered by the 1895 Public Services Act – Premier, Treasury and all ministerial departments – and each chapter begins and ends with a change of government.



The dunes at Yagon, a favourite camping spot in the Myall Lakes National Park, after some restoration work. Photo R. Broomham

⁴ Richard Taylor, *Bondi, a biography*, Historic Houses Trust, Sydney, 2005, pp. 3, 10.

⁵ Pauline Curby, *Seven Miles from Sydney: A History of Manly*, Manly Council, Manly, 2001, p.151.



LIBRARY REPORT

Compiled by Terri McCormack.
Library enquiries: (02) 9810 4421 or
terrimc@ozemail.com.au

PHA PERIODICALS

EMPHATIC: Newsletter of the Professional Historians Association, Tasmania Inc. No 30, January 2006

In the fifth article in this series on members' backgrounds, Dianne Snowden recalls the influences shaping her choice of history as a career. Like many of us in the profession, she had a childhood fascination with cemeteries and an active imagination enabling her to people the past. She was fortunate to have talented teachers at ANU who encouraged creative and rigorous history. But it was something more personal that set her on her path - a reference in Keith Hancock's *Discovering Monaro* to "old Snowden". He turned out to be her great-great grandfather and family history research developed her interest in social and local history. Since the 1980s, she's worked as a professional historian and genealogist, completed her

PhD at the University of Tasmania, and spent six years on the Tasmanian Heritage Council where she's been a strong advocate for wider recognition of the work of professional historians.

PHAROS: Professional Historians Association (Vic) Inc No 40, March 2006

How do they do it and how many turn up? The Continuing Professional Development Program for 2006 has an event each month. These include visits to the Salvation Army HQ, the Royal Exhibition Building, and the Performing Arts Museum as well as talks on copyright, the training of historians, setting up your own consultancy, and the work done by members of the Society of Editors.

In his article 'The Strange Places We Visit', Peter Yule confesses to feeling sorry for academic historians with their dull lives. The work of professional historians is much more varied, consisting of steep learning curves and short time frames. Yule estimates he's interviewed 600 people in the last ten years, ranging from former Prime Ministers to poultry farmers. His latest commission is a history of Australia's Collins class submarines. His research has incorporated a two-day visit to an arms fair and cocktails with several admirals on a submarine.

As well as news of members' current projects, this issue showcases seven 'Just Finished' publications and exhibitions completed by the prolific Victorian historians. Bomford and Newgreen's history of the Pharmacy Board of Victoria sounds a bit gruesome - and intriguing - with its references to Chinese opium,

quackery, and potions for use in suicide and murder.

PROFESSIONAL HISTORIANS ASSOCIATION (WA) Inc Newsletter. No 95, February 2006

In 'Report from Toodyay', PHA (WA) member Dr Robyn Taylor writes of life as an historian living in an historic town and how enmeshed she became in ongoing living history. On joining the local Historical Society, she was - surprise, surprise - immediately co-opted onto the committee. She had to learn about local history and quickly became involved with local people and groups and worked on several local projects - all of which she found enriching.

Also in WA, the Historical Records Rescue Consortium is up and running: microfilming of the State Library's newspapers is underway, and 2600 photographic negatives have been digitised. These can be accessed online at www.slwa.wa.gov.au by using "HRRC" as a keyword in a pictorial search.

QUEENSLAND PROFESSIONAL HISTORIAN. No 78, February 2006

The feature story by Jim Campbell tells of the Stabler sisters from Townsville, war brides who still retain their "Australianness" despite having lived in America for over sixty years. When the American troops arrived in North Queensland during WW2, they were welcomed as saviors. Viv and Betty Stabler were two of many women who found the Americans exotic and stylish

and married them despite bureaucratic obstacles. It was not until after the war that they could start their new lives in America and many more years before they could revisit their Australian families. Many of these NQ war brides in the United States still refer to Townsville as "home".

Both the National Trust of Queensland and the PHA are concerned that the Queensland Heritage Act 1992 is being reviewed without public consultation. The partial demolition of the historic Herries Hospital in Cairns indicates that the Heritage Act is already a toothless tiger.

Member and Patron, Dr Lorna McDonald, is working on *Back Roads and By-ways: Journeys of Discovery at Home and Abroad*. Some of her migrant stories from 19th century Rockhampton are reproduced here and make interesting reading.

This well-produced and colourful newsletter also contains details on cemetery conservation and transcriptions at Cleveland, Dunwich and Redland Bay, and the reopening of the Dunwich Museum on North Stradbroke Island

NON-PHA PUBLICATIONS

INSITES: Newsletter of the Historic Houses Trust of New South Wales.
No 46, Autumn 2006

Some of us might remember the excitement of Speakers Corner in the Domain on weekends. John Webster was one of the many passionate speakers with fervent views on many topics. Another eccentric was The Wizard, a UNSW

lecturer spreading magic and mayhem. During the 1960s, much of the soapbox oratory concerned the Vietnam War. All this has been captured by photographers Raymond de Berquelle and Trevern Dawes whose work now forms an exhibition at the Museum of Sydney.

At long last convict artist, forger, and con-man Joseph Lycett gets due recognition with an exhibition and accompanying book at the Museum of Sydney. His exquisite paintings of the settlements at Sydney and Newcastle and his watercolours of the Awabakal people of the Newcastle region will be on display from 1 April. The exhibition is a collaboration between the HHT, the State Library of NSW, and the National Library and should broaden our understanding of colonial art and Aboriginal culture.

A current conservation program at W. C. Wentworth's Vacluse House is another project connecting European and Indigenous cultures. The aim is to recover and conserve three Aboriginal engravings on a rock platform in the grounds. Discovered in 1980, these have subsequently disappeared beneath soil and plants. According to the family, Aborigines from other rural Wentworth properties were allowed to camp in the grounds of Vacluse House. The engraved figures may relate to initiation ceremonies performed by the visiting tribal people.

HISTORY AUSTRALIA: Journal of the Australian Historical Association. Vol 2, No 3, December 2005

Ros Pesman's presidential address assesses the Congress of the International

Committee of Historical Sciences at the University of NSW in July 2005. With 1400 delegates from 70 countries and, despite some criticisms noted by Martin Lyons in his Report, it was deemed a success. Professor Pesman points out that, despite the international focus, most papers were based on western thought models and we have yet to find a truly global historiography.

Another significant 2005 conference was the Australasian Welfare History Workshop in Melbourne. Five diverse articles in this issue reassess welfare historiography in the changing political environment in Australia and New Zealand. The remainder of this bulky publication deals with the usual wide ranging spectrum of articles, reviews and news. I was particularly interested in the piece by Guy Hansen, curator at the National Museum of Australia, on the conceptions of the role of history in our society and the limitations of 'story telling' in museums. You can read more of these articles online at www.epress.monash.edu/ha

MONASH UNIVERSITY. School of Historical Studies Newsletter. Vol 3, Semester 1, 2006

This publication, which we haven't previously received, is aimed at Monash alumni. Do we have any Monash graduates amongst our membership in Sydney?

This newsletter contains an interesting piece by retiring Professor Graeme Davison reflecting on his career. To him, history is not just a craft or a profession: it

is a vocation, a calling for life. We can expect further publications from him on Australian urban life. The School is establishing a Graeme Davison Scholarship for excellence in all forms of Australian culture and is seeking sponsors.

Graeme Davison is also Director of the newly formed Institute for Public History (IPH). Its inaugural lecture last September was given by Associate Professor Bain Attwood, based on his book *Telling the*

Truth about Aboriginal History. In late 2005, the IPH and the Australian Centre for the Study of Jewish Civilisation co-sponsored a two-day conference *Seeking Asylum in Australia 1995-2005*. Another project, in collaboration with the Japan Club and the Immigration Museum, focuses on the Japanese in Victoria. For further details check the website of the School of Historical Studies at www.arts.monash.edu.au/history

INSURANCE NEWS

Armbro Insurance Brokers has notified the results of discussion with Resource Underwriting Pacific Pty Ltd (Resource) in regards insurance for professional historian association members. Specific details are as follows:

1. The Resource insurance policy remains a combined limit of liability for both Professional Indemnity and Public Liability Insurance;
2. The policy Excess will remain at \$1,000 each and every claim;
3. This year we have been able to shorten the current proposal form for renewing members. Unfortunately those taking a new policy will be required to complete a full members proposal.
4. Due to the required premium increases to provide a separate Professional Indemnity and Public Liability program, we have agreed to continue on with the combined Professional Indemnity/Public Liability program, and to continue providing benefit to all members in securing the best possible coverage with minimal cost to members.
5. Public Liability section of the policy has been an "optional extension". However, on renewal of the policy, Public Liability will be an "automatic extension", and the premium will be charged accordingly. But please note, this will only affect those who do not currently have Public Liability insurance.
6. \$10,000,000 limit of liability will still apply as an option, therefore the proposal form will not detail the premium for this limit. It is anticipated that the premiums will still be similar to last year's;
7. There have been no major changes to the policy, in either scope of cover or definitions. However, the wording has been altered to reflect a more "plain English" style that will be easier to comprehend.

If you have not already taken out a policy, don't despair. You too can reap the advantages gained through ACPHA's discussions, on behalf of all professional historian association members, with Armbro Insurance Brokers Pty Ltd and Resource Underwriting Pacific Pty Ltd (Resource). Contact Maria Totaro or Adam Browning at Armbro Insurance Broking Pty Ltd on 03 9572 0155, or email them at maria@armbro.com.au and adam@armbro.com.au. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Maria Totaro and Damien Muller for their efforts on behalf of PHA members

Mary Sheehan, ACPHA Vice-President & PHA (Vic) Delegate



What's On

by *Christine de Matos*

April 2006

Exhibitions

'Romance & Industry: Images from the New South Wales Railways'. Until end June 2006.

Venue: State Records Gallery, The Rocks.

'Convicts: Sites of Punishment'. **Venue** Hyde Park Barracks Museum.

'The Vikings are Coming!' Until 18 June 2006 **Venue:** National Maritime Museum.

'City of Shadows'. Until October 2006. **Venue:** Justice and Police Museum.

April Events

- 1 **Walking tour.** *'The People of Paddington'*. HHT. **Venue:** TBA **Time:** 10am-12.30pm + lunch **Cost:** \$47, mems \$37, lunch \$12 **Bookings essential:** ph: (02) 8239 2266.
- 2 **Tour.** *'Tank Stream Tours'*. HHT. **Venue:** TBA **Time:** every 45min from 8.15am-5.15pm **Cost:** \$25, mem/conc \$20 **Bookings essential:** Ballot system operating – register for ballot by 10 March ph: (02) 8239 2211.
- 5 **Lecture.** *'The Commonwealth Customs Service'*. RAHS. **Venue:** History House Auditorium **Time:** 1pm **Cost:** \$7, mems \$5 **Bookings essential:** ph: (02) 9247 8001; email: history@rahs.org.au
- 5, 12, 19 & 26 **Talks.** *'Utzon(n)ites'*. Series of 4 talks on Jørn Utzon. HHT. **Venue:** Museum of Sydney or The Mint **Time:** 6-8pm **Cost:** \$20, mems/conc \$15 per talk **Bookings essential:** ph: (02) 8239 2211.
- 8 **Walking tour.** *'In Convict Footsteps'*. HHT. **Venue:** Hyde Park Barracks Museum **Time:** 10am-12n **Cost:** \$20, mems/conc \$15, family \$40 **Bookings essential:** ph: (02) 8239 2211.
- 9 **Walking tour.** *'White Bay Power Station: Electrifying Business'*. HHT. **Venue:** TBA **Time:** 10am & 2pm **Cost:** \$39, mems \$29 **Bookings essential:** ph: (02) 8239 2266.

- 9 **Heritage festival.** *'Grandparents Day'*. Discover what it was like on the home front during WWII. HHT. **Venue:** Susannah Place Museum **Time:** 10am-5pm **Cost:** \$3, grandparents free when accompanied by grandchild **Enquiries:** ph: (02) 8239 2288.
- 14-16 **Conference.** *'Australians and New Zealanders in China, 1800-1950'*, Canberra. **Enquiries:** Dr Ian Welch, email: ian.welch@anu.edu.au
- 19 **Lecture.** *'Joseph Lycett: Convict Artist'*. HHT. **Venue:** Museum of Sydney **Time:** 6-8pm **Cost:** \$15, mems/conc \$10 **Bookings essential:** ph: (02) 8239 2211.
- 22 **Walking tour.** *'Archaeology in The Rocks'*. HHT. **Meeting venue:** Susannah Place Museum **Time:** 10am-12n **Cost:** \$20, mem/conc \$15, Family \$40 **Bookings essential:** ph: (02) 8239 2211.
- 22&
- 23 **Special event.** *'Ask the Experts: Antique Appraisal and Conservation'*. HHT. **Venue:** The Mint & Hyde Park Barracks Museum **Time:** 10am-6pm **Cost:** \$10 **Bookings essential:** Tickets on sale from 20 March ph: (02) 8239 2211; web: <http://www.hht.net.au>
- 23 **Talks/tour.** *'Great War Stories'*. HHT. **Venue:** Rouse Hill Estate **Time:** 10am-12n & 1-3pm **Cost:** \$10, mem/conc \$7 per session **Bookings essential:** ph: (02) 8239 2211.

Upcoming Conferences

'16th Biennial Asian Studies Association of Australia (ASAA) Conference', 26-29 June 2006, University of Wollongong. Enquiries: <http://www.uow.edu.au/arts/conferences/asaa/>

'"Genres of History": The Australian Historical Association's 13th Biennial National Conference', 3-7 July 2006, Australian National University, Canberra. Enquiries: web: <http://histrsss.anu.edu.au/aha/index.html>

'Dancing with Memory: Oral History and its Audiences: XIVth International Oral History Conference'. 12-16 July 2006, Sydney. Enquiries: email: IOHA@uts.edu.au; web: <http://www.ioha.fgv.br/>

'Rethinking the Past: Experimental Histories in the Arts', 28-29 July 2006, University of Technology, Sydney. Enquiries: email: Tara.Forrest@uts.edu.au; web: <http://www.hss.uts.edu.au/rethinking/>

Call for Papers

'Working To Live: Histories of the 8 Hour Day & Working Life', 21-22 June 2006, University of Melbourne. Abstracts of 250 words due by **1 March 2006**, full papers by 20 May. Enquiries: Peter Love, email pjlove@infoxchange.net.au or plove@swin.edu.au; web: <http://www.asslh.com/> or <http://www.australian.unimelb.edu.au/> or <http://www.8hourday.org.au/>

'Performers, Practitioners and Audiences in American Studies: Biennial conference of the Australia New Zealand American Studies Association (ANZASA)', 6-12 July 2006, University of Tasmania. **Enquiries:** Tom Dunning, email: tdunning@utas.edu.au; web: <http://www.anzasa.arts.usyd.edu.au>

'2nd Biennial ANU Missionary History Conference. Asia-Pacific Missionaries: At Home and Abroad'. 25-27 August 2006, Australian National University, Canberra. Abstracts due **30 May 2006**. **Enquiries:** Dr Ian Welch, email: ian.welch@anu.edu.au

'Indian and Pacific Crossings: Perspectives on Globalisation and History'. 12-15 December 2006, Fremantle, Western Australia. **Enquiries:** web: <http://www.ecu.edu.au/ses/iccs/conference2006/callforpapers.pdf>

To contribute to What's On, send details of your event to cdm@uow.edu.au by 20th of the month.

Journal of Australian Colonial History Vol 7

The University of New England is pleased to announce the release of Volume 7 of the Journal of Australian Colonial History, a special issue on the theme of 'Convict Escape'.

The volume features 9 essays by some of Australia's best colonial historians, as well as two international scholars.

The feature article is a reconsideration of the 'China myth' in the early years of NSW. Did the Irish bolters really believe that by crossing the Blue Mountains they could make it into China? Other essays discuss convict absconding on the Bathurst frontier, the role of the Hyde Park Barracks in preventing convict escape, and the different attitudes held by the colonial elite towards male and female escapees. There are also essays on the escape of the Young Irelanders from Van Diemen's Land, the seizure of the brig Venus by convicts in 1806, and convict suicide at the Port Arthur penal settlement.

For further details, contact the Journal of Australian Colonial History at jach@une.edu.au

PHA (NSW) Directory 2005-6

Postal Address

GPO Box 2437 Sydney NSW 2001

Australia

Telephone

9252 9437 (message)

Email

secretary@phansw.org.au

Website

www.phansw.org.au

For specific enquiries see list below

PHA (NSW) Officers 2005-6

President

Pauline Curby Tel 9527 7214

Vice President

Peter Tyler Tel 9363 5242

Treasurer

Rosemary Kerr Tel 9327 3706

Secretary

Virginia Macleod Tel 9977 4950

Executive members

Ron Ringer, Michael Tyquin, Kate Waters

Minutes Secretary

Ron Ringer, Tel 9362 1055

Membership Secretary

Michael Tyquin Tel 9698 6745

Public Relations

Pauline Curby

Internal network (email)

Virginia Macleod Tel 9977 4950

Website

Christine de Matos Tel 9570 9797/

Cathy Dunn Tel 4455 4780

Representatives on other bodies

Australian Council of PHAs (ACPHA)

Kate Waters Tel 9518 0139, Peter Tyler

ACPHA Appeals Committee

Peter Tyler Tel 9363 5242

ACPHA Selection Committee

Roslyn Burge Tel 9810 7324

History Council of NSW

Laila Ellmoos Tel 9552 6182

Heritage Council - History Advisory panel

Terry Kass Tel 9749 4128

National Archives Customer Council

Terry Kass Tel 9749 4128

State Records Community Advisory Committee

Roslyn Burge Tel 9810 7324

Professional Services

Employment Network

Pauline Curby, Virginia Macleod

Library

Terri McCormack Tel 9810 4421

Professional Development

Pauline Curby

Peter Tyler Tel 9363 5242

Publications

Phanfare

Annette Salt Tel 9489 5997

Editorial Collectives

See list at front of *Phanfare*

Other PHA (NSW) publications

Virginia Macleod

Virginia Macleod

The Professional Historians Association (NSW) Inc is the organisation representing qualified historians in NSW and ACT who are professionally employed or commissioned to undertake historical work

Publications

PHA (NSW) web Site

www.phansw.org.au

available on line

PHA (NSW) Register of consulting historians

PHA (NSW) Annual Reports

PHA (NSW) Register of Historic Places and objects

Phanfare indexes

Information about professional development

Monographs

Historians & Native Title

Price \$22 each GST incl

Address orders to

PHA (NSW), GPO Box 2437, SYDNEY 2001

National web site

www.historians.org.au

Code of Ethics

Professional fees

History as a career

Commissioning history

What's on in History

ISSN 0616 3774