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FRIENDS OF BATTYE LIBRARY (Inc.) NEWSLETTER

ABN 571625138800

Exploring Paul Hasluck's Archives



Dr Evatt (left) and Sir Paul Hasluck at
Fremantle, 1953
(Battye Library 013168D)

*Emeritus Professor Geoffrey Bolton
will speak about his research into
the life and career of the late
Sir Paul Hasluck.*

*Our meeting will be held on
Wednesday *12 March 2008
(*note new date)*

*Wednesday 12 March 2008
5:00pm for 5:30pm start
State Library of Western Australia
Great Southern Room - (4th Floor)*

Please see details on Page 3

Our meeting

Wednesday 12 March 2008

(please note new date*)

**Great Southern Room, 4th floor
State Library of Western Australia**

5.00pm for 5.30pm.

Emeritus Professor Geoffrey Bolton OA

Exploring Paul Hasluck's Archives

The Late Sir Paul Hasluck was one of WA's most eminent sons and forged a distinguished career, first in politics as the Liberal member for Curtin and a Minister in the Menzies Government, and then as Australia's Governor General for the period 1969 to 1974. Beginning his career as a journalist, he became passionate about Western Australia's history and was author of many articles as well as a major work, *Black Australians*.

Our Emeritus President, Geoff Bolton, needs little introduction as he is one of Australia's finest historians and leading academics. Geoff, former Chancellor of Murdoch University, was named Western Australia's Citizen of the Year in 2006. He was awarded the National Archives' 2003 Frederick Watson Fellowship and is currently working on a biography of Sir Paul Hasluck.

We will be going to dinner at Vultures restaurant after the meeting and you are most welcome to join us. Bookings can be made on the night.

(* Due to unavailability of the venue, our March meeting has been changed from its usual Tuesday evening to the following Wednesday evening. Meetings for the rest of the year will be held on:

Tuesday 13 May - Great Southern Room

Tuesday 8 July (Annual General Meeting) - Great Southern Room

Tuesday 9 September - Great Southern Room

*Tuesday 25 November (end of year function) - Great Southern Room
& Library staff canteen area)*

Message from the President.

Dear Friends

This is a red letter month for we are celebrating the end of our Rescue project with an exhibition in the Library which tells the story of our Historical Records Rescue Consortium. Brightly coloured panels set out the task of rescuing deteriorating newspapers, photographs and film and show how it was done, and what some of the outcomes have been. When the exhibition closes here at the end of February it will begin a tour of suburban and regional libraries. You can all feel very proud to have been part of such a project – one of the first in Australia – which has had immediate benefits for the people of our great state.

The rescued films are now on DVDs that can be borrowed from local libraries – especially our key regional libraries. Also the new microfilmed newspapers will be available in the regions to which they belong – for example the *Kalgoorlie Miner* can now be viewed by Kalgoorlie residents in their own library instead of having to come to Perth. All of us can also see the photographs which have been saved as many thousands of them have been put onto the State Library's catalogue. An article by Glenda Oakley on page 8 recounts what staff working on the pictorial preservation part of the project found out. Hints on how to view HRRCimages can be found on page 14 of this newsletter.

And there is further good news, we are going ahead with an application to Lotterywest to save our oral histories – which were excluded in the first rescue project. We will keep you posted as the lengthy process of applying and waiting continues – please cross your fingers for us.

Pamela Statham Drew

Fragile newspapers being washed before filming.



New Director for the State Records Office

The Minister for Culture and the Arts, Hon Sheila McHale, recently announced the appointment of Ms Cathrin Cassarchis as the Director of the State Records Office. Ms Cassarchis will take up her new role on 4 March 2008.

Ms Jacqui Allen, Acting Director General of the Department for Culture and the Arts said, "Ms Cassarchis comes with a background in the archive sector as previous Head of Public Affairs at The National Archives in the United Kingdom and a successful track record as Director of the Foundation at the Western Australian Museum."

We welcome Ms Cassarchis and look forward to working with her and staff from the State Records Office.

For all clients of the Battye Library

Could all members who are users of Battye Library please fill out the State Library's customer feedback forms which are available at Battye's front desk. It is important that you provide this feedback because it is the means by which the State Library hears the views of its clientele. Currently these forms are under-utilised and therefore the Library has limited feedback. So we urge you all to provide this feedback whether it is criticism in areas which need attention and improvement or acknowledgement of good service.

Furthermore, as part of a project to fully evaluate services in Battye Library, we will be asking members in the future to complete a survey on client services in the Battye Library.

In the meantime, do fill in those customer feedback forms. The Society would greatly appreciate your co-operation in this exercise.

Pamela Statham Drew

Vale Betty Raison

Born in Denmark WA on 11 April 1926, Betty was the daughter of James Maitland Hopson and Lizzie Gertrude Gibbs. Betty took up a nursing career before marrying John Raison in 1952. They farmed at Bencubbin where they brought up their three children. Her life revolved around caring for others and she founded the Bencubbin Silver Chain. After retiring to Perth, she became a Foundation and life member of the WA Alzheimers Association. She had a keen interest in Western Australian history and will be very much missed by all who had the privilege to know her. She was long time member of the Friends of Battye Library and well known to many at the Battye Library who appreciated her gentleness, generosity and humour. Betty died on 14 February after a long battle with illness. Our sincere condolences to her husband John and their children, John, Susan and Perry.

Condolences to Ronda Jamieson

The Committee of the Friends of Battye Library were saddened to hear of the death of Fred Jamieson, husband of former Director of the Battye Library, and long time member of the Friends, Dr Ronda Jamieson. Our deepest sympathy to Ronda and her family at this sad time.



**Perth looking north
from the Town
Hall tower, 1870s.
(100008PD)**

This is one of the many priceless images saved by the now completed HRRC project. Further information about the project can be found on page 12.

Proposed Changes to the Library Board of Western Australia Act

The following has been extracted from the State Library's website at
<http://www.liswa.wa.gov.au/legislation.html>

The Department of Culture and the Arts is currently proposing a package of amendments to cultural institution legislation designed to modernise governance arrangements. One of the Acts under review is the *Library Board of Western Australia Act 1951*. Proposed changes to the Act fall into three broad areas:

1. Library Board Structure and Governance
2. Relationship with Local Government and responsibilities of the Library Board in relation to public libraries
3. Legal Deposit

Community Consultation

The State Library of Western Australia and the Library Board of Western Australia recognise the importance of engaging our partners, the community and staff in consultation to benefit from the experiences and knowledge of those people in the community who are most affected by our policy decisions. The consultation into the review of the Act will be open and fair. All views will be sought, valued and considered so that we achieve the best outcome for the people of Western Australia.

Library Board of Western Australia Act 1951

To view the most current electronic version of the Act use the Statutes 'A-Z browse' or the 'Search' function on the State Law Publisher's website: <http://www.slp.wa.gov.au/statutes/swans.nsf>

Copies of the consultation papers and the report of the public workshop held on 3 July 2007 can be viewed on the State Library's website at
<http://www.liswa.wa.gov.au/legislation.html>

Now that the Historic Records Rescue Consortium project is winding up, it is time to review what we have discovered about our own pictorial collections during the project. HRRC was set up to preserve and make available photographic negatives in the Battye Library Pictorial Collection. Some of these negatives had been in our collection for more than 20 years but as we had never had the resources to print them we had only vague ideas about content. Collections such as Aerial Surveys Australia (BA1475) and the Stevenson, Kinder & Scott collection (BA1119) were recent additions but so large it took a project the size and scope of HRRC to process them and make them available.

In two years more than 75,000 negatives have been scanned to preservation quality and more than 45,000 of these have been catalogued onto the State Library of Western Australia's online catalogue. To achieve this more than 200,000 negatives were assessed and listed before the best and most unique images were passed to the scanners and finally to the four cataloguers. The assessors produced accession listings describing any information supplied by the donor or written on the negative, date if known and the physical description of the negative (size, format, special notes). This information was then used by the cataloguers to produce accurate catalogue records which describe both the negative and its subject content making it possible for everyone to access the photographs. As much as 90% of these images have never been seen in our collection before.

The cataloguers were able to view high quality preservation scans of the photographs which sometimes brought to light details in the photographs or questions about the information supplied. Information about places we have included in our catalogue records includes town, street, street address, building name, business name. People were sometimes identified by donors but often the event in the photograph needed to be researched to discover who was present and sometimes we were lucky enough to find the photograph published in a book, magazine or newspaper.

In many images, for example, in the Mackay Collection (BA1541), the photographer has handwritten (sometimes misspelling) the surname of the customer for the portrait on the back of the negative. In the *Truth*

Newspaper Collection, 1926-1931 (10028B) was found an image of a man sitting in an awkward position on the pavement reading a copy of the *Truth*. This image was not found published. On the back of the negative is written Godfrey Wright. In our own catalogue we can find an oral history with Godfrey Wright, polio victim and newspaper seller during the Depression years (OH2317). Almost certainly the same man.



049699PD

During this project many online resources were found to be invaluable in identifying places and especially people and have been used by the cataloguers to make what we hope are the best access points in the catalogue records. One of the most useful has been the *Western Australian Post Office Directories* on the State Library's website. Using the POD a photograph of an anonymous street can be identified and sometimes dated by looking up the names of any businesses to be seen. People's names can be confirmed (newspapers such as the *Truth* are not to be trusted with spelling) as well as their location and the time they were in WA can be narrowed down helping date the photograph. Both the POD and the electoral roll also often note the profession of the person. So, if we have a photograph of a jockey with the surname scribbled on the back, we can use these resources to more accurately say which man we have.

The Metropolitan Cemeteries Board is also invaluable for spellings, as well as dates of death and approximate birth which helps in identification especially when we come against that perfidious custom of naming children, especially sons, the same name as parents. (www.mcb.wa.gov.au) You will find that sometimes the cataloguer has found such a reliable source on the web that a link has been provided from the catalogue to the online resource. For example the catalogue record describing a 1942 portrait of Dr Rita Stang has a link to the biography of her in the Australian Dictionary of Biography (www.adb.online.anu.edu.au)

Other sites we have found valuable are:

The Australian Music Centre - www.amcoz.com.au

The Australian War Memorial – www.awm.gov.au

Anzac Day - www.Anzacday.org.au

Digger History - www.diggerhistory.info

Its an Honour - www.itsanhonour.gov.au/

Faith, Hope, Charity – Australian Women and Imperial Honours, 1901–1989 - www.womenaustralia.info/exhib/honours/honours.html

Cricinfo (about anyone who has played cricket) - www.cricinfo.com

Some sites have been invaluable in identifying the object, subject or place in the image:

The Civil Aircraft Register - www.casa.gov.au/casadata/regsearch/findairs.asp

Washing machines - www.oldewash.com

Number plates - www.dna.nl/aus-wa.htm (the site of a Dutch plate collector!)

Cinemas and drive-ins - cinemaweb.scam.ecu.edu.au/index.php

Clothing - www.fashion-era.com/index.htm

The HRRC cataloguers found that sometimes the most innocuous image unexpectedly acquired poignancy and meaning. 050141PD is a photograph of a car. A car enthusiast identified it for us as a 1929 Studebaker President 8. Having the date gave a starting point for searching the *Truth* newspaper

050141PD

where this photograph was found published.

This car was a taxi in which the body of taxi driver Charles David Cameron Patterson (27) was found on a lonely stretch of Hale Road on 11 August 1930. Suddenly, this image has meaning to car enthusiasts, the taxi industry, crime researchers and family members of the murdered man.



Knowing something of the subject of the photograph and the source sometimes meant we were able to find the image published. As well as the *Truth* newspaper, images from industrial photographers such as Illustrations Ltd were found in books, magazines and annual reports such as that of the Egg Marketing Board. Family photographs are found in family histories and biographies (sometimes in books about collateral branches of the family).

Many people have helped us during this project and we are grateful for the time people are willing to put into ensuring that all the information and the correct information is attached to each photograph. In some cases

this project may represent the last chance to obtain first hand knowledge. We are grateful to the elderly man who remembers playing darts in the Bassendean Hotel in the 1950s, the racing enthusiast who remembers Helena Vale in the 1940s and the residents who identified Waroona in the 1950s. Added to this is our own David Whiteford who, with his wide range of contacts, can identify anything related to railways, David Eyre our aircraft specialist, Ron Nash who helps with farm machinery and equipment and Steven Hall and his volunteers at the WA Cricket Association. Also, the people who have found images of family identified by only surname and are able to tell us full names, dates and locations.

We are continually encouraged by the interest and enthusiasm expressed by members of the public. Now, we look forward to finding ways to catalogue the remaining approximately 30,000 images which have been scanned but cannot be made available to the public until resources are found to put them into the catalogue. This one of the most satisfying projects I have been involved with at the State Library. Sometimes it has even been amusing.

Glenda Oakley
Pictorial Archivist
Battye Library



049930PD

End of year function 2007

A very successful evening was held on 20 November last year when Professor Bob Reece's latest book, *Daisy Bates: grand dame of the desert* was launched. Bob gave a lively and entertaining talk about his research into Daisy's life and colourful career. The meeting was followed by a fully catered dinner held in the State Library's staff canteen area which was attended by more than forty members and guests.

To the rescue!

Historical Records Rescue Consortium Exhibition

In January and February *To the rescue!*, an exhibition showing at the State Library, told the story of the beginnings of the HRRC project, the problems faced, and how they were resolved, so that now these important records from the Battye Library are preserved for the future.

The Historical Records Rescue Consortium was formed in 2003 after the then Director of the Battye Library, Dr Ronda Jamieson, highlighted the urgent need to save irreplaceable materials which were at risk of loss to the Western Australian public. The Consortium was awarded a \$3 million Lotterywest grant in July 2005 and the State Library of Western Australia and the Department of Culture and the Arts also contributed more than \$1 million for equipment and in kind support.

Comprising a series of informative panels, written by Ronda Jamieson and produced by the State Library's Public Programs section, the exhibition showed how the grant has enabled work to be completed on preparing and microfilming more than 800,000 pages of Western Australian major daily and regional newspapers, preservation copying 150 'at risk' films from the State Film Archives and digitising over 77,000 decaying photographic negatives. Of these photographic images, more than 48,000 are now available to the public through the State Library's online catalogue.



Scanning negatives for preservation.

Accompanying the exhibition, were free talks, tours, and showings of *Films from Yesteryear* which were attended and appreciated by many visitors to the Library. From March onwards the exhibition will tour regional and metropolitan libraries throughout the State.

The exhibition was launched by Pamela Statham Drew, HRRC president, at a function on 23 January which was well attended by staff and members of the Lotterywest board, representatives from the organisations which make up the Historical Records Rescue Consortium, Library Board members, and staff of the State Library.

In launching the exhibition, Dr Statham Drew paid tribute to the support received from Lotterywest staff, particularly Jo Wilkie, members of the HRRC Committee, Margaret Allen CEO of the State Library, Ronda Jamieson and Jennie Carter former directors of the Battye Library, and State Library staff. She credited much of the success of the project to

the skill and leadership of Pat Beament who was appointed Project Manager in 2005 and who has ensured that all the outcomes have not only been reached, but impressively exceeded.



Pat (left) and Margaret Allen (right) with some of the HRRC project staff at the exhibition.

Pamela announced that regional librarians have already been presented with DVD copies of preserved archival films and reels of microfilms of the newspapers pertinent to their respective areas, for their patrons.

The project

The newspapers microfilmed under this groundbreaking initiative are:

West Australian (January 1912 – December 1954) 270,979 pages

Western Mail (January 1907 – January 1926) 59,376 pages

Coolgardie Miner (March 1913 - December 1917) 1,277 pages

Kalgoorlie Miner (January 1906 – December 1950) 113,049 pages

Northern Times (August 1905 - June 1952) 18,907 pages

Pilbara Goldfields News (January 1898 – December 1900, January 1902 – March 1923) 6,032 pages

Eastern Districts Chronicle (January 1906 – January 1927) 6,711 pages

South Western News (April 1905 – December 1949) 15,660 pages

Geraldton Guardian (October 1906 – December 1950), 39,090 pages

Daily News, (July 1882 – December 1950) 263,032 pages

Southern Times (April 1894 – July 1903) 9,467 pages

Albany Advertiser (January 1902 – February 1950) 30,223 pages

One hundred and thirty rare archival films are now available from public libraries throughout Western Australia. Another 20 will be added once they have been finally preserved onto stable film stock and had DVD access copies made of them. These films date from the 1920s and include important documentaries, commercial, educational and private films, as well as newsreels. The State Library regularly shows archival films in the theatre on Wednesdays commencing at 12.30pm.

The Battye Library Pictorial Collection holds an estimated one million images dating from 1845 to the present day. A high level of skill and knowledge, both of the Battye Library's collection and of Western Australian history, was necessary to assess and select photographs for preservation under the HRRC project. Specialist conservation staff prepared negatives which were scanned to a very exacting preservation standard and stored on a large capacity server. Most of these images have now been uploaded to the State Library's online catalogue and can be easily accessed.

To see for yourself, follow the simple steps below after going to the home page of the State Library of Western Australia at:
<http://www.slwa.wa.gov.au>

Click on:

1. Search
2. Search our Catalogue
3. Pictorial
4. Keyword - Enter 'HRRC' and the keyword of your choice,
e.g. HRRC lifesavers

(Several images may be listed - double click on your preferred image and a larger view will be shown in a new window)

The images you choose can be downloaded and printed for personal use. If you wish to publish or display them you must contact the State Library's Photographic Public Orders officer either in writing to:

Pictorial Public Orders
Client Services
State Library of Western Australia
25 Francis Street
PERTH WA 6000

Or you can telephone (08) 9427 3256 or send an email to:
pictorial.orders@slwa.wa.gov.au.

HRRC membership

Those who make up the Historical Records Rescue Consortium are:

- Friends of Battye Library Inc.
- Royal Western Australian Historical Society Inc.
- Western Australian Genealogical Society Inc.
- History Council of Western Australia Inc.
- Professional Historians Association (WA) Inc.
- Oral History Association of Australia (WA Branch) Inc.
- Indigenous community
- State Library Custodians Inc.
- Ethnic Communities Council Inc.
- History Teachers' Association of WA
- Australian Mining History Association Inc.
- Private donors

More information about the project and some of the many items saved can be found on the HRRC website at <http://www.hrrc.org.au/index.php>

Jennie Carter



At the exhibition:

L-R: Pat Beament,
Margaret Allen, Lennie
McCall, & Pamela
Statham Drew.

L-R: Ruth Marchant James,
Geoffrey Bolton, & Jacqueline
O'Brien.



Health benefits of history

Two articles in the *West Australian* (19/12/07) indicated positive effects on health from involvement with historical pursuits.

Walking tours – sites of interest

Top up your exercise regime! Both the City of Perth and the City of Fremantle have guides and trails on various topics. For instance, Perth showcases *Boom or Bust, Convicts and Colonials* and *Icons of Influence*. Stops include such places as The Weld Club, The Deanery, a former public whipping post and The East Perth Cemetery. The series offered by Fremantle has themes of C Y O'Connor, Manjaree Heritage and The Waterfront, among others. For more information see <http://www.cityofperth.wa.gov.au/web/Visiting/Activities/Self-Guided-Walks/>; and <http://www.fremantletrails.com.au/>

Volunteering – Battye Library and WA Genealogical Society

Participants praise the maintenance of mental acuity and emotional well-being from the intellectual stimulus and social contact in helping to preserve as well as assisting people to research heritage documents.

Leith Robinson

Some new publications in the Battye Library

(extracted from the State Library's catalogue.)

Buti, Antonio. *A matter of conscience: Sir Ronald Wilson*. Crawley, W.A.: UWA Press, 2007.

Orphaned as a child, Ronald left school at fourteen to earn a living as a messenger in the Geraldton courthouse, before subsequently enjoying a meteoric rise in the legal profession to become a Justice in the highest court in Australia. Best known for *Bringing Them Home* (his moving and controversial 1997 report on the 'Stolen Generations' of Aboriginal children), Sir Ronald was also Crown Prosecutor in a number of high profile criminal and civil cases."

Donaldson, Mike & Kenneally, Kevin (eds). *Rock art of the Kimberley: proceedings of the Kimberley Society Rock Art Seminar held at the University of Western Australia, Perth 10 September 2005*. Perth, W.A.: Kimberley Society, 2007.

Hawke, Stephen. *Barefoot kids*. Fremantle, W.A. : Fremantle Arts Centre Press, 2007.

“For primary school children. An action packed, character filled adventure story set in Broome WA.”

Hernan, Brian H. *Forgotten flyer : the story of Charles William Snook and other pioneer aviators in Western Australia*. Kalamunda, W.A. : Tangee Publishing, 2007.

Leach, Roland; McCauley, Shane; & Ward, Donna (eds) ; introduction, John Kinsella. *The weighing of the heart : an anthology of emerging West Australian poets*. Cottesloe, W.A. : Sunline Press, c2007.

“An eclectic collection of poetry evoking all aspects of Australian culture from the isolated rural setting to the cosmopolitan.”

McLaren, Glen. *A long, hard road : a centenary history of the Pastoralists and Graziers Association of Western Australia* edited by William Cooper. Belmont, W.A. : Pastoralists and Graziers Association of Western Australia, c2007.

Parker, Adrian; Bradshaw, John; & Done, Chris. *A Kimberley adventure: rediscovering the Bradshaw figures*. Marleston, South. Aust.: Gecko Books, c2007.

“In 1997, the mystery of Australia’s Kimberley region was finally solved when the rock paintings, described and documented by pastoralist, Joseph Bradshaw during his 1891 expedition, were finally located. The authors embarked on the journey to view the elusive galleries that have remained an enigma for decades.”

Sharp, Eloise. *The bushman’s directory : Western Australian drovers, stockmen, mailmen, doggers, teamsters, shepherds, boundary riders, fencers, from the 1800s & up to the 1970s*. Carlisle, W.A. : Hesperian Press, 2007.

“The research for this compilation of names and occupations was begun by Eloise Sharp before her death in 1993 and has now been completed by her daughter Eloise (Mary) Taylor. It is not intended to be a complete edition and it is not a biographical dictionary in the strictest sense. An extended index enables easy access to a great deal of biographical data. It is the first of a series of biographical indices that will cover all the published historical literature of W.A. with an emphasis on the people of the bush.”

Jack's Back

The Barlee Brook - a Nyoongar name or not?

In our last newsletter, I drew on a work produced in 1992 by Rod Milne in order to fashion a piece which largely related to suffixes in Aboriginal place names. Another point that intrigued me in the same book was that it carried an entry for the Barlee Brook, and in this the only derivation it suggested was that 'biyarli' means 'galah'.

As a 'twitcher' friend of mine pointed out however, galahs were unknown in such a locality in the early days; rather it was in open inland areas that the species was widespread. So it soon led me to investigate further and eventually confirmed my prior belief that the stream would have been named after Sir Frederick Palgrave Barlee, who served as Colonial Secretary of Western Australia from 1855 to 1875.

Barlee has certainly been well served in the State's nomenclature. F.T. Gregory named a Range after him in 1858, John Forrest a Lake in 1869 and the Barlee Springs in 1874, and Ernest Giles a Mount, also in 1874. Palgrave too, and even Frederick, have been commemorated geographically by the same explorers. And there are Barlee Streets in hither Mount Lawley and several country towns. In remoter regions, gazeteers also show a Well, a Bore and an Impediment (a mudbank in the Kimberley)!

Strangely enough, J.T. Hope failed to list the Barlee Brook alongside the four main eponymous features of the outback in the very useful work he assembled in 1923-28, *Nomenclature of Western Australia* (a bound typescript, resulting from his published Notes in the *Sunday Times* in 1928). However, the stream certainly features in the Lands and Surveys: Nomenclature Index (held in Battye on mircrofiche), which tells that it was originally shown on public plans as Hurst's Brook (in 1866), and then, from 1868, as Barlee Brook. The new designation adopted at that comparatively late stage of colonial settlement is hardly surprising. For it was at that time the Colonial Secretary took up a run of land along this tributary of the Donnelly River where it was crossed by the Old Vasse Road (now Vasse Highway). In January 1867 he despatched Thomas Dickson and a herd of cattle to establish a farm there, which was given the name Biddellia. On Barlee's death, Dickson acquired the property, and the family continues farming there today. At the instigation of the former Forests Department, Barlee is now the official name of a locality thereabouts.

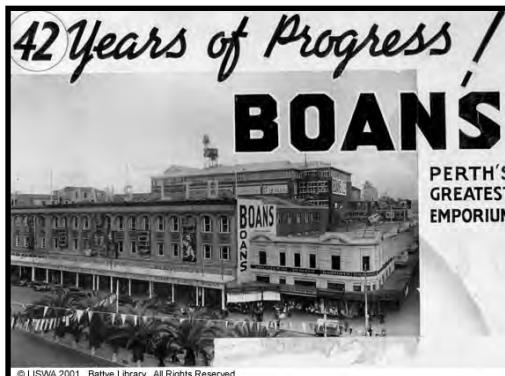
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MAY 2008

FRIENDS OF BATTYE LIBRARY (Inc.) NEWSLETTER

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Elevated view of the Boans Wellington Street entrance for promotional brochure, 1938. (Battye Library 000620D, Boans Collection.)

History of Boans

David Hough
will speak on his research for his book on the
history of Perth's premier department store.

Our meeting will be held on
Tuesday 13 May 2008
5:00pm for 5:30pm start
State Library of Western Australia
Great Southern Room - (4th Floor)

Please see details on Page 3

Our meeting

Tuesday 13 May 2008

Great Southern Room, 4th floor
State Library of Western Australia
5.00pm for 5.30pm.

Our speaker will be David Hough

*Boans for Service:
The history of Boans Limited Department Store
(Details of David's talk is on page 4.)*



State Library of Western Australia

Boans interior c1960. Photographer Fritz Kos. Courtesy Battye Library 340480PD. (Negative preserved through the HRRC project.)

We will be going to dinner at Vultures restaurant after the meeting and you are most welcome to join us. Bookings can be made on the night.

Please note:

If any members have difficulty with taking the stairs to the fourth floor, please notify staff on either the ground floor reception desk or the Battye Library desk on the 3rd floor for access to the staff lift to the fourth floor.

David Hough - Boans For Service

"If you can't get it at Boans, you can't get it in Perth," was a familiar cry for nearly ninety years as Boan Brothers and then Boans Ltd established its reputation as a Universal Provider. David Hough will describe the challenges and the opportunities discovered through his undertaking of this commissioned history of Perth's most famous, and most cherished, department store.

David, a Perth-based writer, was a theatre, opera and dance critic for more than twenty years for the *National Times*, *Dance Australia*, the *Bulletin* and the *Australian Financial Review*. He contributed to the *New Grove Dictionary of Opera* (1992), the *Companion to Theatre in Australia* (1995), the *New Grove Dictionary of Music* (2001), the *Historical Encyclopaedia of Western Australia* (now in production), and the forthcoming *Biographical Dictionary of the Australian Senate*, V. 10. He was also a regular broadcaster for the ABC's *News Commentary* program.

His 'Spectator' columns for the *Australian Financial Review* were published in 1991 under the title *The Chameleon's Dish* and his survey of Western Australian Theatre, 1829-1992, was published in 2003 in *Farewell Cinderella: creating arts and identity in Western Australia*. His *A Dream of Passion: the centennial history of His Majesty's Theatre* was released in November 2004, and was short-listed for the 2005 Western Australian Premier's History Prize.

He continues to contribute theatre criticism and the occasional Obituary to the *West Australian* – for pleasure, not for profit.



Boans Tea Rooms
c1920.

(Battye Library
112320PD.)

Message from the President.

Dear members,

We are in for a treat with David Hough presenting a paper on Boans on the 13th may - do hope you can come. We are looking for new members too so if you would like to bring a guest, we will make them welcome.

You may have heard about the recent survey of Battye Library users. The History Council of WA with the support of the State Library has circulated a comprehensive survey of services in the Battye Library. The survey finished on 30 April and when the results have been collated and analysed, a report will be provided in this newsletter for our members.

It is worthy of note that microfilm and reader printer machines in the Battye Library's reading room are being up-graded - not before time, but a very welcome addition for researchers.

Pamela Statham Drew

New Director of State Records

As mentioned in the last newsletter, Ms Cathrin Cassarchis commenced as Director of State Records on 4 March 2008. Ms Cassarchis, who hails from Melbourne, came to the State Records Office with a background in archives as previous Head of Public Affairs at The National Archives in the United Kingdom.

Following her return to Australia in 2001, Ms Cassarchis was the Director of the Foundation at the Western Australian Museum. The previous Director of State Records, Tony Caravella, left the organisation in August 2007 for the Commonwealth Administrative Appeals Tribunal. Leigh Hays, Manager of Archival Services at the SRO, served as Acting Director during the seven months interval between Tony's departure and Cathrin's arrival at the SRO.

State Library Bookshop - discount for members

I am delighted to report that the State Library has again offered members of the Friends of Battye Library a 15% discount on new book purchases. To be eligible for the discount, members must show proof of name when making their purchases so staff can confirm that you are a current member.

Please note that the discount does not apply to secondhand books sold in the bookshop, nor to the Friends of Battye Library publications which are sold at an already discounted rate.

Archival quality materials

It is interesting to learn that the bookshop now stocks archival materials as recommended by the State Library's conservation staff. There are a variety of boxes, paper and card, photo enclosures, binders and gloves available to help us preserve our precious items.

As a service to customers, the bookshop will order in Australian and Western Australian titles which are currently not in stock. Staff are also keen to learn of new titles and Western Australian publications.

The bookshop staff look forward to seeing many visitors to the shop.

State Records Office: Margaret Medcalf Award 2008

This Award was first presented in 2003 and honours Margaret Medcalf, who is well known to Friends of Battye Library members as the distinguished former Battye Librarian and State Archivist of Western Australia. Ms Medcalf held both positions from 1971 to 1989.

The award recognises excellence in referencing and research, resulting from use of the State archives collection at the SRO. All works nominated for this years award must have been completed and/or published in 2007 and submitted to the Director of SRO prior to 1 April 2008. The Award ceremony will take place on 14 May at the Alexander Library Building.

Wanted: Australia's Missing Newspapers

If there's a stack of old newspapers gathering dust under the bed or out in the shed, the State Library of Western Australia wants to know about it.

The search is on for these valuable pieces of our social history as part of the Australian Newspaper Plan (ANPlan), a nation-wide initiative of state and territory libraries designed to find, collect and preserve access to historic newspapers. As a result of the work of the project to date, missing newspapers have been identified and the next step is to try to find these missing titles.

Become a newspaper detective!

We'd like your help to look for the missing newspapers and submit them to us for preservation. The missing titles which the State Library of Western Australia would like to find urgently include:

- *Pilbara Goldfields News* (missing all of 1901)
- *Northam Courier* (missing all of 1915)
- *Geraldton Express* (missing all of 1916)
- *Swan Express* (missing all of 1916)
- *Evening Star* (Boulder - missing all of 1919)
- *The Swan River Guardian* (1836 and 1838, various issues)
- *Bulong Bulleting and Mining Register* (1897, various issues)
- *Perth Gazette and Independent Journal of Politics and News* (1855 – 1857, various issues)

As well as many other titles. For a full list of the wanted newspapers, go to www.nla.gov.au/anplan

If you uncover these wanted papers, which may have been lying hidden in someone's garage, in an elderly person's collection of keepsakes or even in the vaults of a local historical society or archive, please telephone Carmel McRobert, Battye Library Subject Specialist, on (08) 9427 3305 to find out how you can help.

For a full list of the wanted newspapers, go to
<http://www.nla.gov.au/anplan>

(From SLWA's website)

Email addresses needed

To enable us to share information and keep members up to date on important happenings, a group email list for current members is being prepared. If you would like to be kept informed of important matters or forthcoming events relevant to the Battye Library and the State Records Office, please email me at bevnjen@gmail.com or Nick Drew at nickdrew@bigpond.com with your email details.

I recently circulated the Battye Library Questionnaire to members and if you received it, then your email address has already been included on the list and you do not need to reply to me or Nick.

If you have received the survey but do not want to be sent any more Friends of Battye Library information by email, please let us know and we will remove your email details from the group list.

Thank you for your assistance and co-operation in establishing this new service for members.

Jennie Carter

New Client copying service at the SRO

In August 2007 the State Records Office introduced a new service - the Client Copy Centre. This service replaced the SRO's photocopy service, and provides better access to copies by researchers, allows a greater range of materials to be copied (including volumes), and provides better protection for archival materials.

The Centre is situated in the SRO Search Room, and consists of a camera, copy-stand and PC. This facility has been set up to enable researchers to copy material for themselves. Clients may take images of archival material (subject, of course, to copyright provisions and the fragility of the record), and save the images to a portable USB device (flash or thumbdrive) or burn to a CD. These images may be printed at home or work, or through a commercial copying service such as OfficeWorks.

Of course, clients may continue to use their own cameras to copy archives in the SRO Search Room, if they prefer to do so.

Tom Reynolds

Films from Yesteryear

Enjoy a selection of short films from the State Film Archives which have been preserved by the Historical Records Rescue Consortium funded by Lotterywest. These films are shown monthly on Wednesdays in the State Library Theatre from 12:30pm to 1:30pm.

28 May 2008

Water for you [1980] (17min.colour, sound). The story of water from reservoir to tap, with an emphasis on conservation.

Forecasting bushfire weather [1961] (12min; colour, sound). This WA Government film describes the steps that can be taken to reduce the risk of bushfire.

Royal Show [1909] (9min; b&w, silent). The country comes to the city. Early footage of Perth's largest annual community event.

Barrow island [1968] (10min; colour, sound). The establishment and operation of the Barrow Island oilfield.

Shearing at Tambellup [1975] (7min; colour, silent). An educational film showing all shearing activities from paddock to truck.

25 June 2008

Grandstand Perth – The summer sports scene [1971] (17mins; colour, sound). A dramatised story of the sporting activities in Perth over the summer of 1970/71.

The Centaur [1977] (11mins; colour, sound/ No commentary.) An educational film about the ship that sailed between Fremantle and Singapore.

Head of the River [1958] (3mins; b&w, silent). Official launch and rowing races including shots of the race from Kings Park.

South West Corner [1958] 916mins; colour, sound). A promotional film of the South West featuring the history and lifestyle of this popular region.

Historical Records Rescue Consortium (HRRC) project

The HRRC archival film screenings were held during the February. The Project Manager presented the films and also promoted the HRRC exhibition, talks and tours. There were 100 people who attended the film matinees, 10 people at the story telling and 35 people on the tours for the month of February.

The HRRC exhibition closed on 27 February and is on travel to selected Western Australian regional libraries.

The website has been updated and some additional images added. The site can be viewed at <http://www.hrrc.org.au>

Newspapers:

The preservation of newspapers project has been completed:

Microfilming total is 833,803 pages (119%), 1,229 reels.

Which consists of:

West Australian (January 1912 – December 1954) 270,979 pages

Western Mail (January 1907 – January 1926) 59,376 pages

Coolgardie Miner (March 1913 - December 1917) 1,277 pages

Kalgoorlie Miner (January 1906 – December 1950) 113,049 pages

Northern Times (August 1905 - June 1952) 18,907 pages

Pilbara Goldfields News (January 1898 – December 1900, January 1902 – March 1923) 6,032 pages

Eastern Districts Chronicle (January 1906 – January 1927) 6,711 pages

South Western News (April 1905 – December 1949) 15,660 pages

Geraldton Guardian (October 1906 – December 1950), 39,090 pages

Daily News (July 1882 – December 1950) 263,032 pages

Southern Times (April 1894 – July 1903) 9,467 pages

Albany Advertiser (January 1902 – February 1950) 30,223 pages

Preservation of Photographic Negatives:

The total number of images digitised for the HRRC project to date is 77,716. A total of 45,795 images have been catalogued, linked and made available on-line for the HRRC project. This figure exceeds the projected outcome of 20,000 images.

Motion Picture Film Preservation:

The total number of film titles outsourced for preservation copying since commencement of the project is 150 film titles. One hundred and forty eight (148) film titles have been saved to a stable polyester base. Total of 130 titles have been copied to DVD.

All regional public libraries have received free copies of all microfilmed newspapers and motion picture film DVDs that are relevant to their districts.

Pat Beament, HRRC Project Manager.

Sandwich Seminars in the State Records Office

Periodically SRO holds community seminars designed to provide an introduction for new clients, to help them better understand how to access the vast range of historical material contained within the collection. An annual program of lunchtime seminars, known as Sandwich Seminars are available, or clients may request a specific seminar or presentation. Seminar numbers are usually restricted to no more than 15 people.

The Sandwich seminars are presented by SRO staff or by researchers with many years experience using the State archives collection. The seminars usually consist of a series of short talks on different areas of the collection, followed by brief question and answer sessions.

These lunchtime seminars are held between 12.30pm and 1:30 on the dates stated and are free of charge. They are held in the South West Room (Ground Floor) of the Alexander Library Building, Perth. This meeting room is located adjacent to the State Records Office Search Room. Bookings are essential and can be made at the SRO Enquiry desk or on ph. 9427 3360 in the fortnight prior to each seminar.

The next Sandwich Seminar will be presented by Tom Reynolds, the SRO's Archives Research Officer, on Wednesday 30 April . The topic is 'Maps and Plans in the State archives collection'.

Tom Reynolds

A voyage of artistic discovery using the Battye Collections

By Robyn Taylor

In the course of my work researching building histories for heritage related projects I often wonder about the artist or artisan behind the stained glass window, the uniquely designed terrazzo floor, and the well-designed wrought iron gate. Were these objects imported or produced locally? If they are local products, then who was the designer, and how were these objects manufactured? Sometimes the answers are found in the course of research, but all too often the artists and artisans remain anonymous.



University of Western Australia
Stained glass window in Winthrop Hall, University of WA. (Battye Library 085354PD)

My chance to find out came when the Friends agreed to fund a pilot study using funds from the Maude Sholl Bequest. The study is entitled *Artists, artisans, and manufacturing industries located in the Perth metropolitan area, 1900 to 1939. An annotated bibliography of sources held in the JS Battye Library of West Australian History.*

I started with some artists I was already familiar with such as Wilfred Priestner (1871-1961) whose papers are lodged in the Battye's Private Archives. Priestner was a wrought iron artist and engineer who began to practise his trade around 1919. His workshop was located in Kingsway, Nedlands. I knew about Priestner's work on the University of WA campus, although a Melbourne firm had undertaken the initial ironwork on the Hackett Memorial Buildings, and there had been some confusion about which firm was responsible for what.

The Priestner archives proved to be a treasure trove of information about his dealings with many of Perth's architectural firms and the commissions he undertook all over the State, and interestingly, the range of products he designed from hospital operating trolleys to steel window frames. However the most rewarding find was the collection of delightfully illustrated letters from Monsignor Hawes, the priest-architect,

who commissioned Priestner to undertake much of the wrought-iron work for his churches and his own priest-house in Mullewa.

These letters are not only precious documents, but also very fragile, and staff were notified about their vulnerability. Detailed descriptions of Hawes' buildings can be found in John Taylor's beautifully illustrated publication *Between Devotion and Design* published in 2000, which can be found on the Batty shelves.



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Church of St Mary's priesthouse, Mullewa c1980
(Batty Library, 005436D: WA Tourism collection)

There are, however, few collections in Private Archives that relate to my area of study, therefore much time is being spent scanning the two main journals covering my research period; *Western Australian Mining, Building and Engineering Journal* (WAMBEJ). The Batty Library holds issues from July 1896 to September 1897, and from April 1903 to 1917, though there are some missing issues between 1913 and 1917. The other publication is *Building and Construction*, and holdings date from 1927 to the 1970s.

Unfortunately there will be a ten-year gap between these two collections of weekly trade journals that have proved in the past to be goldmines of information for historians. Neither journal has been indexed so it is generally 'hit and miss' for researchers looking for specific information. But there are benefits in not always knowing exactly where to look as serendipity often reveals other items that may prove useful. I sometimes think there is an angel or sprite that contrives to reveal a hidden gem of knowledge just as I start to wonder 'Why on earth am I am doing this?'

As I go through these collections Friends' member, Beth Frayne, is expertly assisting me. Beth has been trawling through the *Post Office*

Directories and creating spread sheets based on professions and trades such as artists, architects, stained glass and lead light companies, stone masons and monumental works, carpenters and wood carvers and turners, modellers and plaster companies.

Part of the study will be to match up Beth's data with the details of my research to create a document of sources for individual artists and companies. For example Barnett Bros was a firm producing a range of standard products including glass and leadlights for domestic homes. When the highly skilled stained glass artist H H Estcourt arrived in Western Australia during the gold boom and joined the firm, Barnett Bros was able to offer (and apparently for the first time in WA) locally designed and made stained glass windows that could compete with the English and Irish glass that had previously dominated the market. The *Western Australian Mining, Building and Engineering Journal* reveals the beginnings of Barnett Bros activity in this area and Estcourt's work being installed in places such as St George's Cathedral and St Mary's Catholic Cathedral in Perth and a number of other churches.

Estcourt, like Priestner, received a number of commissions resulting from the work of architect Mons. Hawes. It would have been during the process of researching his book on Hawes, that John Taylor started compiling information on stained glass artists. This resulted in his monograph, *Investigation and Assessment of Stained Glass Windows in St Francis Xavier Cathedral, Geraldton, Western Australia*, which was produced in 1999 and copies lodged in the Battye Library. This document contains details on H H Estcourt, Barnett Bros. Ltd, and other English stained glass artists.

I was also excited to find new references to the work of Phil Goatcher, the world famous designer of theatre drop curtains and scenery who decided to make WA his home. Some of Goatcher's work is described and illustrated in David Hough's publication on His Majesty's Theatre, *A Dream of Passion*, copies of which are held in the Battye Library. I knew Goatcher and his son also undertook the decoration of office buildings and homes and references to specific commissions by Goatcher & Son can be found in the *Western Australian Mining, Building and Engineering Journal*.

There have been similar exciting finds relating to a wide range of related

topics such as the training of artisans at the Perth Technical School; the finding and promoting of Donnybrook stone for local building; the modelling and plaster work of Robert Tindale who designed the lions on top of His Majesty's Theatre as well as some, or maybe all, of the celebratory arches that adorned the city for the visit of the Duke and Duchess of Cornwall in 1901. Photographs of these arches can be found in the Pictorial Collection (see example below) and that other great resource, *Twentieth Century Impressions* (see pp.56-58).

Robyn Taylor



State Library of Western Australia

The Agricultural Arch, Barrack Street Perth, July 1901.
(Battye Library 006674PD)

Sholl Bequest funding for CSO file listings

In late 2005 the Friends of Battye Library Committee granted funds to the State Records Office, to be spent in the 2006/07 financial year, to employ a project officer to commence the compilation of an electronic list of records in the main Colonial Secretary's Office correspondence file sequence from 1878 – 1918.

Andrew Morant was employed as the project officer last year and started the listing, familiarising himself with the peculiarities of 19th century administrative language and creating a useful listing of these records for SRO staff and clients. Andrew finished the first stage of the project in June last year. Earlier this year the Friends granted more funding to SRO so that Andrew could be re-employed to continue working on these vital colonial records. He recommenced with SRO on 25 March and will be working on the records until mid June. Welcome back Andrew!

Tom Reynolds

Friends of Battye Library \$5000 Research Grant awarded

In commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the JS Battye Library of West Australian History the Friends of Battye Library funded a research grant. In 2007 applications were called for research proposals that provide guides, links, or aids to interpreting specific aspects of existing Battye Library collections. We are pleased to announce that the successful applicant for the \$5000 grant is Julie Martin who has commenced a project to compile a user friendly and comprehensive *Guide to Western Australian Legislative Assembly Electoral districts 1904-1980*.

The guide will assist the public, historians, researchers and genealogists to more readily locate persons registered to vote in Western Australia during this period. The dates 1904 to 1980 have been chosen as there were few if any electoral rolls published prior to 1904. From 1980 to 2000 the electoral rolls were issued in alphabetical order by name of the elector. Since 2000 the rolls have reverted to previous electoral format with the Electoral Commission producing an alphabetical index of streets and areas covered by each electorate. Julie anticipates that her Guide will be completed by December 2008. It will then be available to users who visit the Battye Library and it is hoped that in due course it will be published on the State Library's website.

Jack's Back

Before Siam, Anna was here awhile!

A fascinating new twist will henceforth attach to Western Australia's history in the convict era, as was recently indicated through an address delivered to the Royal Western Australian Historical Society. The speaker was Gerard Foley (of the State Records Office) and he was co-author of the exposition along with Alfred Habegger, historian and biographer, a resident of Oregon, USA. Their paper dealt with Thomas and Anna Leonowens and the four years they spent here from 1853 to 1857.

Quite a few of our Friends may at once recognise the name of Anna Leonowens as the lady who in 1862 took up a teaching post at the court of King Mongkut of Siam. Some will know of the book *Anna and the King of Siam* by Margaret Landon, published in 1944, and of the Hollywood film of the same name that was made in 1946. Virtually all will surely be aware of the splendid musical version of the story, *The King and I*, that came out five years later.

It sparks intriguing speculation why Anna herself made no mention of her Western Australian stay in her own rather imaginative autobiographies, and later biographers also met with some puzzlements about the period concerned. It was thanks to the publication in 1979 of Volume 3 of the *Dictionary of Western Australians* (edited by Rica Erickson) that people gradually became aware of the sojourn here of Thomas Leonowens, together with his wife and growing family.

In their recent research, the joint authors actually uncovered a lot more about Thomas than about Anna, but this was most welcome for filling in serious gaps. Thomas served in government employ for three years in Perth and another year or so at Lynton near Port Gregory. Besides some valuable details of family history then, the research has been able to focus clearly on several interesting realms of the couple's experience, beginning with a near-shipwreck that preceded their arrival at Fremantle. Early on, prominence is accorded to the Swan River Mechanics Institute, then young and vigorous. Attention is next directed to the little-known Commissariat Department, and finally some animation is given to the short-lived convict depot at Lynton. No doubt the whole story will in future be well exploited for tourism purposes up at still-remote Port Gregory and its hinterland.

I will refrain from revealing more about Anna's later life, as that will be fully covered in a book which Al Habegger is now compiling under contract to a major American publisher. Instead I will indulge another of my own interests and switch to a survey of film and stage portrayals of the woman who trod the streets of tiny Perth more than 150 years ago before she went on to make her debut in royal Bangkok.

In the film of *Anna and the King of Siam*, the leading roles were interpreted by Irene Dunne and Rex Harrison, both highly respected stars in their time. Though well regarded generally, it failed to attract the level of business expected when it played for just a week at Perth's Plaza Theatre from 26 September 1947.

On the Broadway Stage, *The King and I* began its very successful run on 29 March 1951, with Gertrude Lawrence and Yul Brynner taking the leads. Brynner again played the King in the sumptuous film adaptation of 1956, which also had Deborah Kerr admirably cast as Anna. In Perth the film ran four weeks at the Ambassadors Theatre from 23 May 1957 and a fifth week at the Plaza soon after.

It was 1963 before Perth was able to enjoy the first of several stage productions of the *King and I*. This ran three weeks at the Capitol Theatre, with Susan Swinford as Anna. Then in June 1982 Terri Johnson played the part in a season of 16 nights at the lately restored His Majesty's Theatre. The same venue hosted the most elaborate presentation of all for a season of seven weeks from 17 August 1991, with Nyree Dawn Porter as Anna. Two 'amateur' productions also made brief appearances at the Capitol in 1965 and in 2004 at the Regal Theatre in Subiaco.

Hollywood's third film offering (and without music) came to Perth on 16 December 1999 and played five weeks at Cinema City and Cinecentre in turn, with simultaneous suburban release. Called *Anna and the King* it projected Jodie Foster as the latest depiction of Anna.

So, all in all, the long-gone Anna must be quite a well-known personage in this part of the world once again, and likely to be more so.

Jack Honniball

NO. 129



JULY 2008

FRIENDS OF BATTYE LIBRARY (Inc.) NEWSLETTER

ABN 571625138800



*Introducing the
new Director of
the State Records
Office - Cathrin
Cassarchis*

*AGM and Committee
Elections this month*

See inside for details

Objectives

The objectives of the Society are to assist and promote the interests of the J S Battye Library of West Australian History and the State Records Office, and of those activities of the Library Board of Western Australia concerned with the acquisition, preservation and use of archival and documentary materials.

Patron Mrs Ruth Reid

Committee (2007-2008)

Emeritus President:	Professor Geoffrey Bolton
President:	Dr Pamela Statham Drew
Vice President:	Mrs Gillian O'Mara
Secretary (Minutes):	Mrs Tess Thompson
Treasurer:	Mr Nick Drew

Committee members: Mr Graham Bown, Mrs Fiona Caratozzolo (resigned December 2007), Ms Jennie Carter, Mr Jim Gregg, Mr Robert O'Connor, and Ms Jan Skillington (resigned February 2008).

Ex-Officio: Mrs Margaret Allen (CEO and State Librarian)
 Director, State Records Office.

Newsletter editor: Jennie Carter

Cover design Dana Tonello

Coordinator of Volunteers
Ms Anita Freeman Tel: (08) 9427 3250

All correspondence to:
The Secretary, PO Box 216, Northbridge WA 6865

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Views expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily the views of the Friends of Battye Library Committee.

Our Topic
Introducing Cathrin Cassarchis

Cathrin Cassarchis has been appointed as the new Director of the State Records Office of Western Australia.

Cathrin has a background in the archive sector, as previous Head of Public Affairs for The National Archives in the United Kingdom. Prior to that Cathrin acted as funding consultant to the National Council on Archives' (UK). Most recently Cathrin held the position of Director of the Western Australian Museum Foundation, where she was responsible for fundraising, strategy and policy development, negotiation and facilitation and the achievement of corporate targets and objectives.

Cathrin holds a Bachelor of Arts (University of Cape Town) and Dip Arts Management & Training (University College London).

Members and friends are welcome to join us
at the July 2008 meeting

8th July 2008
5pm for 5.30pm start
Great Southern Room, 3rd floor
Alexander Library Building
Perth Cultural Centre

Following the AGM and Speaker you are welcome to join us for a meal at Vultures Restaurant –
Bookings can be confirmed on the night.

Message from the President

Dear All,

I am delighted to inform you that we now have a Battye Librarian who will take up his post on June 16. His name is Malcolm Traill and he has been a senior archivist/librarian at Albany for a number of years. His track record there is excellent, as I can personally testify, having asked Malcolm for help on my Wittenoom project and always had amazing service. Malcolm will not only help us locate references but suggest other sources (once he knows his way around Battye) and he is keen to establish strong links with the Royal WA Historical Society and WAGS which can only be to our benefit. I hope to introduce him to you at our next meeting.

Our annual General meeting is once again the time to elect office bearers and I do hope some of you will think about joining our committee. There is not a lot of business but we need fresh ideas on how to 'grow our society' and help the conservation, preservation and dissemination of our historical treasures.

Till we meet,
cheers everyone Pamela

Jack's (Not) Back

On behalf of the *Friends* we wish Jack a speedy recovery and look forward to the return of *Jack's Back Column* in future issues of the Friends of Battye Newsletter

Introducing our new Batty Librarian, Malcolm Traill

The State Library of Western Australia is delighted to welcome Malcolm Traill to the position of Batty Librarian. Malcolm joins us from Albany Public Library where he has been the Local Studies Librarian, in charge of the Albany History Collection since 1994.



He is originally a librarian – graduating from UWA, WA Institute of Technology and Loughborough University (UK) – with experience at Murdoch, Curtin and Sydney Universities as well as in public libraries in Greater London. He also taught Library and Information Studies at Curtin University for 5 years in the 1980s, before making the seachange (before it entered the vocabulary!) to the South Coast in 1992.

He became a Professional Historian in 2005 and has recently expanded his portfolio by working as a consultant on heritage projects in Albany, such as the redevelopment of the Brig Amity and the conservation of the lighthouse precinct on Breaksea Island in King George Sound.

At Albany, he has turned a fledgling local studies collection into one of the best in WA. He lists his achievements in this role as introducing new technology to increase access to the collection, charming a host of local retirees to volunteer their time to organise and conserve materials, and getting into the

community, by various means, to promote the heritage treasures and historical information that he had in his custody.

Malcolm also has, in his CV, experience as a professional journalist, a restaurateur, and, he and his wife Heather Marr are stallholders in the newly-crowned Australian Farmer's Market of the Year in Albany. He will be moving to Perth from a straw-bale house on his bushland property between Albany and Denmark, which includes, among its inhabitants, three horses and two llamas! Malcolm's appointment as Battye Librarian strengthens the State Library's commitment to its key responsibility in collecting, preserving, and making accessible resources relating to Western Australia.

The position will draw on Malcolm's skills and his contacts among the heritage and library communities all over the State and he is very much looking forward to the challenges and the opportunities in the job.

Next time you're in Battye...why not introduce yourself!

From our Treasurer

With this newsletter is a renewal form for subscriptions for the financial year ending 30th June 2009 (some new members have paid to this date)

Would you please pay your subscriptions as soon as possible **to help and support the Friends of Battye Library (Inc)**

Payments can be made by mail to P.O. Box 216, Northbridge, W.A. 6865 or at the AGM or by leaving an envelope marked attention Friends of Battye Library at the Security Desk, Ground Floor, State Library Building.

Any donations over \$2.00 made to The Friends of Battye Library (inc) is a tax deduction

THE WRITE WAY – Bussell Diaries retrieved

When the Warrior arrived at Fremantle on 12 March 1830, it brought with it several families who became prominent in Western Australia's history. Chief amongst these were the Bussell family -John, Joseph, Alfred and Charles Bussell - as well as John and Georgiana Molloy. On 27 January 1833 the Cygnet brought Lenox, Frances (Fanny) and Elizabeth (Bessie) Bussell to Fremantle and on 19 June 1834, the James Pattison arrived at Albany with Mrs Frances Louisa and Mary Bussell. The four brothers on the Warrior proceeded first to Augusta in May 1830, but they were hampered by isolation and heavy timbered country. They moved to the Vasse in December 1831 after John Garrett Bussell discovered fine pastures on Geographe Bay while chasing a lost cow. By 1834 they had established their property, appropriately named "Cattle Chosen" just outside the present townsite of Busselton, which was surveyed in 1837 and named in their honour. Alfred Bussell moved to Margaret River on his marriage in 1850, establishing "Ellensbrook" and "Wallcliffe".

The Bussells were prolific letter writers and diarists. The State Library of Western Australia holds a large collection of private archival material relating to the family (some 13 shelf metres). These include diaries, letters, notes, legal documents, plans, sketches, verse, cards, recipes, wills, certificates, accounts and religious writings to name a few.

In 2007 new sources - eleven diaries written mainly by Frances Louisa (Fanny) and Joseph Vernon Bussell and two diaries written by John and Georgiana Molloy - were offered for sale. A consortium was set up to acquire the diaries including the Australian Government through the National Cultural Heritage Account, the descendants of Frederick Aloysius Weld Bussell, Busselton Shire Council and the State Library of Western Australia. The diaries were purchased for \$91,000.

To celebrate the acquisition and thank the Bussell family and Busselton Council a launch, featuring a display of the diaries from the State Library, was put on at the Old Bunbury Courthouse. The Chairman of the Library Board Janet Davidson presented the Mayor and Council with a scanned copy of the diaries which will also be available in Battye Library.

Some still need transcription - any volunteers?

Studying in the Public Library in the 1920s: Millie's story

In the early years of UWA, my mother Millicent Barr (nee Marshall) was an Arts student majoring in English and History. She very much enjoyed her student years, maintaining to the end of her life her links with UWA and the friends she made there. In the 1950s when I started my working life as a Student Librarian in what was then the Public Library in James St, Millie told me of her own experience of studying there. Her research had to be done in the early evening, often when it was already cold and dark. She needed to work through newspapers and official reports, all located in the Stack immediately under the roof of the Public Library building (now part of the WA Museum). In summer the Stack was always boiling hot; in winter it felt near to freezing.

It also lacked lighting. The remedy was simple. My mother was handed a candle and matches and directed upstairs to search. She had permission to retrieve whatever she needed from the collection and to work on it there. Yes, a candle and matches! - and unsupervised in the Public Library Stack!

Fortunately she was both a conscientious student and a country girl all too familiar with fire. She wrote her dissertation, gained her degree, and the Library's back copies of *The West Australian* remained intact. It felt odd for me to discover so many years later this link between the student experience of my mother and me, and to realise how much the little unsophisticated settlement at Perth had changed in the years between.

But this was in the 1950s, when microfilm and photocopiers were amazing 'gee whiz!' innovations. 50 years further on, how naive and unsophisticated it all seems now ...

Sholl Bequest Report

One of the recipients of the Sholl Bequest was Dr Robyn Taylor. Robyn and Beth Frayne have been trolling through the many resources available and she tells us that they are a goldmine of information. Retrieving the data is time consuming but rewarding.

Quoting from part of Robyn's letter to Friends:

"Since starting the project, and following the article in your newsletter. I have been contacted by people with similar interests who have provided me with some very useful information that can feed into the project. For example one of your members posted to me a copy of the Sydney based publication Archways to Federation (2001). This book is illustrated with photographs taken from the Battye Pictorial Collection and various journals to illustrate the 14 arches that were created in Western Australia for the inauguration of Federation and the royal visit. I noticed there was no mention of the artists and artisans who designed and made these arches. Similarly, an early article I wrote for the Professional Historians Association newsletter, to alert members about my project, promoted Oline Richards to respond with an article based on her unpublished research on 'Illuminated Addresses in WA'. Oline had used the Battye (and Art Gallery) collections to access these Addresses and write a comprehensive history about their social, cultural and aesthetic significance. Various heritage architects have also promised to keep an eye out for me regarding names and works they come across in the course of their work. I find these contacts and the evident interest in the project not only rewarding but proof the project is worthwhile and will be a benefit."

This was a rewarding letter to receive and proves that the projects being achieved under the Sholl Bequest are of value to the many researchers interested in Western Australian History.

A special thanks to those of our members who have contributed in this way.

Artists, artisans and manufacturers in the Perth metropolitan area 1900 to 1930
Maude Sholl Bequest.

April 2008 – progress report

Post Office Directories (POD)

To date, Beth Frayne has put in 31 hours trawling through the Post Office directories, for selected years, and transferring the information on architects, artists, artisans and specific manufacturing firms, and their addresses, into spreadsheets. She has also checked these against entries in the SLWA catalogues indicating whether there are any holdings in the Battye collections.

On-line catalogues and general index microfiche

I have been targeting specific companies and names of artists/artisans to find out what information is available. As suspected there are limited holdings in the archives, and the indexes are not complete in capturing references to individuals and companies.

Private Collections

Wilfred Priestner (1878-1979) Wrought-iron artist and manufacturer. This collection of documents is a valuable source of information not only on Priestner's practice but also building in WA during the 1920s and 1930s. Priestner's correspondence from the priest/architect Mons. Cyril Hawes is a highlight of the collection. [Acc.2880A]

The value and fragility of this collection was conveyed to the library staff.

Wilson, Grey & Co. Pty Ltd (monumental masons, stone work, contractors) [4780 A/2]

Most useful in this collection is the history of the firm by T. A. Wilson (up to 1918), and L. Gadsdon (1918 to 1963).

There are other collections that need to be accessed and gone through.

Weekly trade journals

A most useful but time-consuming part of the project has been going through the two major weekly journals for this time period (1900 to 1939). These journals are invaluable sources of information about Western Australian history. Neither has been indexed but are frequently used by those involved with building heritage related projects. Generally it is hit and miss finding information unless the researcher is working with specific dates. These journals are:

Western Australian Mining, Building and Engineering Journal (WAMBEJ). The Battye holds issues from July 1896 to Sept 1897, then from April 1903 to 1917, though there are some missing issues between 1913 and 1917. [620 WES - microfilm]

Building and Construction, weekly journal. Holdings date from 1927 (to the 1970s).

Unfortunately there will be a ten-year gap between these two collections. [690 BUI, Stack]

So far I have covered the following years:

WAMBEJ – 1903 to 1907

Building & Construction: 1927 to 1930, and 1937

Beth and I will be giving further consideration as to how best to organise our information so that it will be user friendly for researchers. So far we have considered placing annotated reference sources under subject headings (eg Plaster, stone, iron, glass, graphic art) that will be cross-referenced to individuals and companies. There would also be spreadsheets based on the PODs.

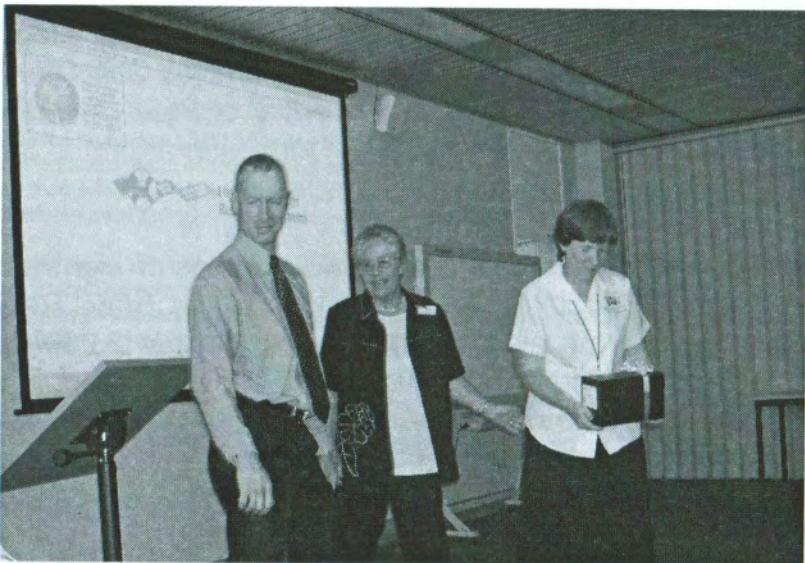
Margaret Medcalf Award 2008

On 14 May the 2008 Margaret Medcalf Award for excellence in research and referencing using the State Archives Collection was awarded to Richard Hartley, author of *River of Steel: A History of the Western Australian Goldfields and Agricultural Water Supply 1902–2003*.

In the fifth year of this award a record number of eight entries was received. In thanking Ms Medcalf and the State Records Commissioner for the award Richard said that the 2,000 Public Works Department files dealing with the Goldfields Water Supply held by the State Records Office and the Water Corporation had almost been an embarrassment of riches. Some of the most enlightening ones had been those dealing with the design and construction of Mundaring Weir and the pumped supply as they illustrated so well the universal attributes of good engineering such as an appreciation of which details were of critical importance in a project and the importance of the non-judgmental correction of errors. He had also discovered some unexpected gems in the files of other agencies such as the Education Department's ones dealing with the one teacher schools along the pipeline. One exposed a poignant First World War romance between a young teacher and the daughter of a notoriously truculent pumping station engineer-in-charge.

River of Steel can be ordered by phone: (08) 3216088 from the National Trust at the Old Observatory or on-line at www.histwest.org.au Royal Western Australian Historical Society Bookshop 49 Broadway Nedlands WA 6009

A Snap Shot of the Year that Was....







Membership Subscription (from July to June—GST Inclusive).

Life Membership \$500

Annual Membership

Ordinary	\$20
Joint	\$30
Pensioner / student / Junior	\$10
Corporate	\$50

Meetings:

General meetings are held each year in March, May, July (also the Annual General Meeting), September and November (also the end of year function.) These are held at the State Library of Western Australia and usually begin at 5pm for 5.30pm and conclude before 7pm.

Newsletter:

Published bi-monthly between March and November each year. Contributions to the Newsletter are very welcome and the deadline for copy is 15 February, 15 April, 15 June, 15 August, and 15 October each year.

Contact details:

For more information, membership forms, or a copy of the Friends of Battye Library (Inc.) Constitution, please contact:

Ms Jennie Carter
Email: wa.research@gmail.com

Or

The Secretary
Friends of Battye Library (Inc.)
PO Box 216
Northbridge, WA 6865

J S BATTYE LIBRARY OF WEST AUSTRALIAN HISTORY

Opening hours : Mon/Thurs 9.00 am - 8.00 pm
 Fri 9.00 am - 5.30 pm
 Sat/Sun 10.00 am - 5.30 pm

Retrievals : Every half hour during opening hours.

Private Archives

Retrievals: every half hour from 9.30am-5pm.

Please allow 1 hour for items to be accessed.

Telephone enquiries : (08) 9427 3291 Fax enquiries : (08) 9427 3256

Website: www.slwa.wa.gov.au

Email: askus@slwa.wa.gov.au

INFOLINK

Telephone enquiries : (08) 9427 3100 or contact Battye Library.

STATE RECORDS OFFICE

The Search Room on the Ground Floor is open for enquiries and use of material on weekdays from 9.30 am to 4.30 pm.

Retrievals : Previous Day - Available 9.30 am
 11.00 am - Available 12.00 pm
 1.00 pm - Available 2.00 pm

Requests for use of government archives in the Battye Library must be lodged at the State Records Office by 1.00 pm if required the same evening and by 1.00 pm on Friday if required on the weekend; for continued use of the material in this way, the requests must be renewed on each occasion they are required. Requests must also be lodged for after hours use of State Records Office microfilm.

A Researcher's Ticket is required. Telephone enquiries : (08) 9427 3360

Website: www.sro.wa.gov.au

Email: sro@sro.wa.gov.au

THE GENEALOGY CENTRE

(situated on the First Floor of the Alexander Library Building)

Opening Hours: as per Battye Library opening hours

Volunteers from the Western Australian Genealogical Society Inc (WAGS) are available for additional assistance to researchers at the following times:

Tues, Wed, Thurs : 9.30 am - 1.00 pm

Telephone enquiries : (08) 9427 3187

Fax enquiries : (08) 9427 3256

Email: geneo@slwa.wa.gov.au

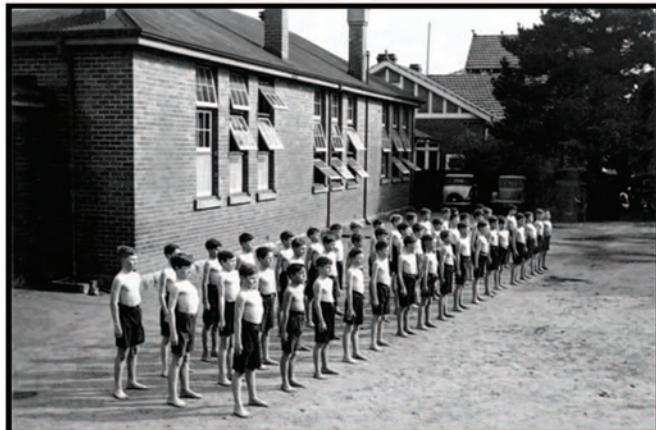
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SEPT 2008



FRIENDS OF BATTYE LIBRARY (Inc.) NEWSLETTER

ABN 571625138800



*Perth
Modern
School
Reborn*

Perth Modern School boys Physical Education class 1939.
(Battye Library 004566D)

*Professor David Black will speak
on his research into WA's first
high school for academically
talented students
founded in 1911.*

Our meeting will be held on
Tuesday 9 September 2008,
5.30pm for 6pm start
(please note delayed starting time)

Great Southern Room, 4th floor,
State Library of Western Australia.

Please see details on Page 3

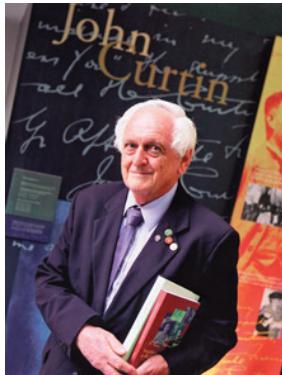
Our meeting

Tuesday 9 September 2008

**Great Southern Room, 4th floor
State Library of Western Australia
5.30pm for 6pm.
(Please note new starting time)**

Our speaker will be David Black

'Perth Modern School Reborn'



Photograph of David Black
Courtesy of Community Newspaper Group and Curtin University.

We will be going to dinner at Vultures restaurant after the meeting and you are most welcome to join us. Bookings can be made on the night.

Please note:

If any members have difficulty with taking the stairs to the fourth floor, please notify staff on either the ground floor reception desk or the Battye Library desk on the 3rd floor for access to the staff lift to the fourth floor.

About our speaker

Professor David Black has a distinguished academic reputation within Western Australia, nationally and internationally, for his contributions to the study and teaching of history and politics.

Professor Black joined the Western Australian Institute of Technology later Curtin University, as a lecturer in history and politics in 1968. He went on to hold positions as senior lecturer, Head of School of Social Sciences, Associate Professor and Professor of History and Politics before his retirement in 2002. The University awarded him the honours of Emeritus Professor and Honorary Doctorate of Letters in February 2008 in recognition of his significant commitment and contribution to Curtin, his profession and the community.

David's research interests are Australia's history and politics, with a particular focus on Western Australia's parliamentary scene. He has been author, joint author or editor of more than twenty books over the past thirty years, many of which have international significance. His publications include definitive works on the WA Parliament and its members, such as the two volume *Biographical Register of Members of the Parliament of Western Australia* (with Professor Geoffrey Bolton), *The House on the Hill: A History of the Parliament of Western Australia 1832-1990*, *House to House: the story of Western Australia's Government and Parliament Houses over 175 years* (with Phillip Pendal), *Making a Difference: Women in the Western Australian Parliament 1921-1999*, (with Harry Phillips) and *A mirror of the people: Members of the Western Australian Parliament 1890-2007* (co-authored with Phillip Pendal and Harry Phillips). Since 1984, Professor Black has been Chairperson of the Parliamentary History Advisory Committee in WA, responsible for the academic and financial oversight of the Parliamentary History Project of the WA Parliament. In 2004 he was appointed as a Parliamentary Fellow (History).

A former Perth Modern student David has researched the history and the potential of this iconic school.



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Perth Modern School prefects with their head teacher, Joe Parsons, in 1916. Courtesy Battye Library Pictorial Collection. 001555D

Pamela Statham-Drew

Message from the President.

Dear Friends,

This issue contains some very exciting news. We are now able to access online early issues of our Colonial newspapers – and search them by word! For those of us who laboured over smudgy microfilm, writing everything down longhand, this is a revelation. If you can, do give the site a try. It is described on page 8 of this newsletter.

Our next meeting will be addressed by one of the State's foremost Parliamentary historians – and he will be hot off the press from the September 6th election. He will be speaking about Perth Modern School, which I know is dear to the heart of many of you, but I am sure he would be happy to answer any question concerning the election as well.

I have not yet had any feedback concerning the Battye Questionnaire but hope to have some news on this front in the near future.

Do put a ring around the 25th November for our last meeting of the year with its now traditional in-house dinner. More next issue.

All the very best.

Pamela Statham Drew

Lindsay Peet

We are sorry to hear that Friends of Battye member and stalwart supporter of the Library, Lindsay Peet, has been taken seriously ill and is in Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital. Although his condition is reported to be stable at the moment, visits are necessarily restricted. Lindsay's many friends and colleagues wish him a speedy and full recovery and our best wishes and thoughts are with him and Laurel at this time.

Cherie Strickland

Get well wishes too to Cherie who is presently at home recovering from major surgery. We hope you will soon be back on your feet and getting stuck into your research.

State Library Bookshop - discount for members

The State Library has generously offered members of the Friends of Battye Library a 15% discount on new book purchases. To be eligible for the discount, members must show proof of name when making their purchases so staff can confirm that you are a current member.

Please note that the discount does not apply to secondhand books sold in the bookshop, nor to the Friends of Battye Library publications which are sold at an already discounted rate.

Archival quality materials

Remember the bookshop now stocks archival materials as recommended by the State Library's conservation staff. There are a variety of boxes, paper and card, photo enclosures, binders and gloves available to help us preserve our precious items.

State Records Office Activities

Launch of 1977 Cabinet papers.

On 30 May 2008 Mr John Hyde MLA presided over the official release of cabinet papers for 1977 at the State Library. The event was covered by the West Australian newspaper and two local television stations. Peter Jones who was a Court Government minister in the 1970s attended this year's launch.

SRO Staff News.

Friends will be pleased to learn that senior archivist, Lise Summers will be formally presented with a doctorate by Melbourne University on 23rd August. Lise's thesis is titled: From wasteland to parkland: a history of designed public open space in the City of Perth WA, 1829 -1965. A copy has been deposited with the State Library.

Senior archivist Gerard Foley is currently relaxing in Italy following the 2008 conference of the Australian Society of Archivists, held at the Parmelia Hotel during the first week in August. Both Gerard and Dr Karen Anderson (who now lives in Sweden) were Co-Convenors of this very successful event, which attracted many interstate and overseas participants.

Tom Reynolds

Friends of Battye Library Committee members

Following the Annual General Meeting held on 8th July, the following office bearers comprise the committee for 2008/2009.

Patron: Mrs Ruth Reid

President: Dr Pamela Statham Drew

Vice President: Mrs Gillian O'Mara

Secretary: Dr Alison Gregg

Treasurer: Mr Nick Drew

Newsletter/Membership: Ms Jennie Carter

Committee:

Mr Graham Bown, Mr Jim Gregg, Mr Robert O'Connor Q.C, and Ms Lorraine Dearnley.

Ex-Officio:

Ms Margaret Allen

Mr Malcolm Traill

CEO and State Librarian

Battye Librarian/Historian

State Library of Western Australia

Ms Cathrin Cassarchis

Mr Tom Reynolds

Director

Senior Archivist

State Records Office

Subscriptions

Thank you for your support of the Friends of Battye Library and please note that membership subscriptions are now due for 2008/2009. Your membership of the Friends is crucial in enabling us to undertake our many projects as well as our central role of building, preserving and publicising the collections and services of the J S Battye Library of West Australian History and the State Records Office. For a small organisation like ours, we are tremendously effective in supporting WA history and research.

We are grateful to those members who have already paid their dues for this year. Some are still outstanding, however, and if this applies to you, then you will note a red dot on the address label of this newsletter. Because of rising costs, we are unable to continue to carry unfinancial members and if we do not receive your subscriptions by October, regrettably, we will have to delete your names from our database.

Email addresses needed

To enable us to share information and keep members up to date on important happenings, a group email list for current members is being prepared. If you would like to be kept informed of important matters or forthcoming events relevant to the Battye Library and the State Records Office, please email me at bevnjen@gmail.com or Nick Drew at nickdrew@bigpond.com with your email details.

In April, I circulated the Battye Library Questionnaire to members and if you received it, then your email address has already been included on the list and you do not need to reply to me or Nick. If you are a new member or renewed your membership and included your email address, then your email address has also been noted.

If you do not want to be sent any Friends of Battye Library information by email, please let me know and I will remove your email details from the group list.

Jennie Carter

Digitised newspapers now online!

The much anticipated Australian newspapers search service is now available at <http://ndpbeta.nla.gov.au> and from the Search tab on the Australian Newspapers Digitisation Program website:

<http://www.nla.gov.au/ndp>.

This service is freely available to the public and contains some 73,000 newspaper pages (approx 730,000 individual articles) from 1803 onwards. Additional pages are being added on a weekly basis. This is a joint project between the National Library of Australia and all State and Territory Libraries.

To date the *Perth Gazette and Western Australian Journal* from 1833 to 1847 has been included with other Western Australian newspapers to be added by the end of 2008 from the following titles:

- Perth Gazette and Independent Journal 1848 -1854
- The West Australian Times 1853 -1854
- Perth Gazette and West Australian Times 1854 – 1874
- Western Australian Times 1874 - 1879
- West Australian 1879 – Jan 1900.

The National Library welcomes feedback and suggestions from users of the service to enable further development. Details on the way in which feedback can be provided are on the 'about' page of the service. The

Library will continue to develop the Beta service and fix any bugs and major issues that arise over the next few months.

Happy searching!

Carmel McRobert

A/Senior Subject Specialist: Battye

Forthcoming events at the State Records Office

Lunchtime Seminars

Previously known as Sandwich Seminars, these events are designed to inform researchers about the State Records Office (SRO) and its collections. Speakers include SRO staff, researchers and Government agency staff. The program is organized by Gerard Foley of the SRO. The talks are usually held from 12.30 to 1.30 (on the advertised date) in the South west room, which adjoins the SRO microfilm area on the ground floor of the Alexander Library Building.

The following seminars will be held later this year

11 September 2008 *The history of Armadale, as documented in archives at the SRO* – Bevan and Jennie Carter.

21 October 2008 *The Centre for WA History at UWA* – Dr Jean Chetkovich.

26 November 2008 (Speaker and topic yet to be finalised)

Geoffrey Bolton Lecture

The fifth lecture in this series, (named in honour of Prof Geoffrey Bolton), will be presented by renowned High Court Judge, Hon Justice Michael Kirby AC.

The lecture will commence at 6pm on Monday 20 October 2008 in the Government House Ballroom.

All who wish to attend this free lecture must first register with the SRO. To register one can either phone Claire Harloe at the SRO on 08 9427 3426 or send an email to sro@sro.wa.gov.au

Tom Reynolds

Historical Records Rescue Consortium (HRRc) project

The project has now been completed and the following Acquittal Report sent to Lotterywest.

The Historical Records Rescue Consortium Project July 2005 to June 2008.

1. Overview

In June 2005 we were pleased to learn that Lotterywest had approved funding of \$3 million for a two year project to be run by the Historical Records Rescue Consortium (HRRc) “to rescue and make available the most at risk and in demand historical records held in the J S Battye Library of West Australia History.” Matching funding of \$1,085,000 was pledged by the Department of Culture and the Arts (DCA) and the State Library of Western Australia (SLWA) for equipment, digital storage, furniture, accommodation and in-kind staff support. A further \$50,000 of in-kind support was provided by members of the Friends of Battye Library Inc. (FOBL) and the Historical Records Rescue Consortium.

The Grant Agreement with Lotterywest was signed on 14 October 2005. The HRRc project was formally launched by the Premier, the Hon. Dr Geoff Gallop, on 16 September 2005, with media and newspaper coverage on ABC Stateline, ABC radio, Channel 7, Access 31, SBS, Foxtel, the *West Australian* and local community papers.

Twenty-six staff were recruited for the project by December 2005 consisting of the Project Manager and an Administrative Assistant, twelve staff involved in photographic negative assessment and digitisation and twelve staff collating and microfilming newspapers. Major refitting works were carried out to accommodate the HRRc staff and equipment for the project. Three new OK 401 micrographic cameras from Zeutschel, Germany, microfilm processor and reader, computers, office equipment and furniture were purchased by the Department of Culture and the Arts and the State Library of Western Australia.

2. Project outcomes

Newspaper Microfilming:

Newspapers filmed is 833,803 pages (119% of the total project), consisting of 1,229 microfilm reels.

This consisted of -

West Australian (January 1912 – December 1954).

Western Mail (January 1907 – January 1926).

Coolgardie Miner (March 1913 - December 1917).

Kalgoorlie Miner (January 1906 – December 1950).
Northern Times (August 1905 - June 1952).
Pilbara Goldfields News (January 1898 – December 1900, January 1902 – March 1923).
Eastern Districts Chronicle (January 1906 – January 1927).
South Western News (April 1905 – December 1949).
Geraldton Guardian (October 1906 – December 1950).
Daily News, (July 1882 – December 1950).
Southern Times (April 1894 – July 1903).
Albany Advertiser (January 1902 – February 1950).

The Regional Libraries were presented with 833 microfilm copies covering the nine regional newspapers.

Photographic Digitisation

The total number of images digitised is 81,480 (109% of the total project). Some of the Western Australian pictorial collections scanned are Stuart Gore, J.J. Dwyer, Sandstone, Illustrations Limited, Aboriginal People of WA, Hilda Wright, Jimmy Woods and the Swan Brewery considered as having the greatest research value of the most at-risk material.

On-line Access

Of the images scanned a total of 46,236 images (231% of the total project) have been catalogued, linked and made available on-line to the community.

Motion Picture Film Preservation

The total film titles preserved are 155 (103%). Major delays were experienced in the Motion Picture film preservation program as the supplier, Atlab, Sydney, (the expert in this field) had been delayed by equipment failure, backlog of work and staffing issues.

Access copies are available through the State Library and Regional Libraries were also presented with selected DVD copies.

The first batch of film was sent in August 2005 and only a part of that batch was returned in April 2006. The last film received in June 2008 which completed the project.

In-Kind Contribution

DCA and SLWA: \$1,358,871. HRRC and FOBL: \$50,000.

3. Publicity

The HRRC website, located at <http://www.hrrc.org.au>, provided an overview of the project, including HRRC members and planned outcomes. It also reported regularly on outcome progress in the three areas as well as a showing a selection of treasures to highlight some of the unique items that have been saved.

Pat Beament
Project Manager

Dr Pamela Statham Drew
President, HRRC.

State Records Office - Margaret Medcalf Award

This year's Margaret Medcalf Award was presented in the State Library theatre on 14 May 2008; the presenter being the State Ombudsman and State Records Commission member, Chris Field. The Award is sponsored by the Commission. The winning entry was selected from a pool of nominated works which were published or completed in 2007, and demonstrate use of the State archives collection at the SRO. The 2008 Award was presented to Dr Richard Hartley for his book *River of Steel. A History of the Western Australian Goldfields and Agricultural Water Supply, 1903-2003*.

Seven works were nominated for this year's award. In addition to the Dr Hartley's book, two other works were highly commended. Both were articles published in volume 25 of *Studies in Western Australian History*; the respective authors being, Criena Fitzgerald, and Kellie Abbott/Celia Chesson.

SRO Volunteers

Pat Paterson, and the Buchanans are regular volunteers at SRO. Pat Paterson continues to spend her Tuesdays relabeling archive boxes, and inserting stable liners in these boxes to protect the records stored within.

Ann and Bruce Buchanan regularly visit the SRO to continue the indexing of references to convicts in the CSO outward letterbooks.

Tom Reynolds

A special day for a remarkable lady.

Rica Erickson turned 100 years of age on Sunday 10 August. The occasion was celebrated by an all day function held at the Cottesloe home of Rica's daughter, Dorothy. Scores of friends and colleagues from the many historical, heritage, artistic, and botanical organisations Rica has been involved with over the years visited her to celebrate and add their good wishes to those of the Queen.



Members of the RWAHS and Friends of Battye Library with Rica. Back L-R: Pamela Statham-Drew, Gillian O'Mara, Reg Appleyard, Jennie Carter, Nick Drew, Bill James, Lennie McCall. Seated L-R: Rica, Margaret Medcalf, Ruth Marchant James.

Rica graciously welcomed her many guests and it was a source of pleasure for her friends to see her looking so well and happy. This bright centenarian has lost none of her charm and wit. As her daughter, Beth, remarked, "Mum can still beat me at Scrabble". It is clear that one of Rica's chief delights is the company of her four children, six grandchildren and ten great-grandchildren.

Biography

Frederica Lucy Sandilands was born 10 August 1908 in Boulder. Her parents, Phoebe Cooke and Christopher Sandilands, had come to Western Australia from Victoria in 1906 and met in Boulder and were married. Rica was the eldest of their eight children. When C.J. de Garis opened up Kendenup Estate, the Sandilands family moved to

Kendenup in 1921 and purchased a small block of orchard land. Rica, who had won an entrance to the Eastern Goldfields High School, remained in Boulder to live with her much loved grandmother. Her childhood interests included sports, music, photography, visiting the local library and exploring the Boulder district on her bike. Rica completed her education in 1925 to Leaving Standard in five subjects at the Eastern Goldfields High School and in her final year was a prefect.

After leaving school, Rica trained and qualified as a teacher and her first posting after gaining her teaching qualification was Aurora School located between Cranbrook and Kojonup. To overcome the isolation, she purchased and learnt to ride a motorcycle.

Her next appointment was at Youngs Siding, located between Denmark and Albany, another one-teacher school with 32 students. It was at Youngs Siding she decided she would attempt her A certificate in teaching and chose as her optional subject research on the native orchids that were so abundant in the district.

Rica started to develop her skills as a botanical artist and, in 1934 she accepted a position which took her to Bolgart. While there she appreciated the different natural environment and also became increasingly interested in the early history of the district.

It was at Bolgart through a mutual love of tennis and other sports that Rica was to meet her future husband. Sydney Uden Erickson (1908-1987) was born at Broad Arrow and moved to East Fremantle when he was eight years old. He was interested in farming having attended Narrogin Agricultural School and was share farming at Bolgart when he met Rica. They were married in June 1936, and Rica retired from teaching.



Chris Sandilands and family c.1917
Rica standing at far right.

(Courtesy Rica Erickson)

In 1938 the young couple purchased an uncleared property at Bolgart which they named 'Fairlea' because as it was a fair property at a fair price, located on a rolling landscape like a lea. Rica and Sydney had four children between Dorothy, John, Bethel, and Robin.

While her children were small, Rica devoted herself to working on the farm and becoming involved in community and sporting activities, as well as being an adviser to Junior Farmers, the Historical Society, and Toodyay Gaol Museum. She still, however, made time to instill in her children a love of the bush.

In the 1950s, as a member of the Bolgart Country Women's Association, Rica commenced the struggle to protect the local bushland and plant life. She was instrumental in having several areas in the Victoria Plains Shire made into nature reserves and in persuading then Premier, Sir David Brand, to increase the width of road reserves in new land leases in order to preserve the native wildflowers. This culminated in 1996 when the Department of Conservation and Land Management named the Rica Erickson Nature Reserve in her honour.

As her children grew and the farm was established, Rica found time to return to her naturalist studies and botanical painting and in 1951 the first of her self-illustrated books, *Orchids of the West*, was published. *Triggerplants* followed in 1958 and *Plants of Prey in Australia*, published in 1968.

Syd and Rica retired from farming and, after an extended trip to Europe the couple moved to Nedlands in 1965. At Bolgart, Rica had spent much of her time researching the history of the district and the move to the suburbs was a good opportunity to research and write. Her first history, *The Drummonds of Hawthornden* was published in 1969 when Rica was 60 years old, this was followed by *The Victoria Plains* in 1971, *Old Toodyay and Newcastle* in 1974, *The Dempsters* in 1978, and *The Brand on his coat* in 1983. While working on projects with other historians, Rica was also gaining a reputation as an expert genealogist which culminated in the publication of *The Dictionary of Western Australians 1829-1914* in 1979 and *The Bicentennial Dictionary of Western Australians pre 1829-1888* in 1988.

Sadly, Syd died in 1987. After a period of time, Rica produced several more works, including *The Bride Ships* in 1992, *The misfortunes of*

Phoebe in 1997, *A life on the ocean wave: the journals of Captain George Bayly 1824-1844* in 1998, *Rica's stories* in 2001 her autobiographical *Rica Erickson: a naturalist's life* in 2006 and *Toodyay homesteads, past and present* with Robyn Taylor in 2006. During all this time she continued with her botanical research as well as perfecting her skills as one of Western Australia's leading botanical artists.



Over the years Rica has received many awards, honours and accolades including Honorary Doctor of Letters from the University of Western Australia, Western Australian Citizen of the Year, Member of the Order of Australia as well as being awarded the Friends of Battye Library's inaugural 'Gems of Time' award in 2003 and lifetime membership.

Rica is indeed a remarkable Western Australian. Her substantial and varying body of work, coupled with her many talents, abilities, intelligence, energy and enthusiasm is truly inspiring. As is her generosity, as she has donated a large collection of her materials, including hundreds of original botanical art works to the Battye Library.

Jennie Carter

[Note: Much of the information for this article has been extracted from the State Library of Western Australia's online publication *Rica Erickson* written by Gail O'Hanlon in 2001. The full text can be viewed at <http://www.liswa.wa.gov.au/erickson/pages/home.html>.]

President's report 2007/2008
Friends of Battye Library Inc.
Annual General Meeting, 8th July, 2008

Another successful year has past, the highlight of which was our final acquittal of the HRRC grant –about which more a little later.

Our first speaker for the year was Dr Sue Graham Taylor – President of the History Council and inaugural James Sykes Battye Fellowship winner. On September 11th Sue spoke about her research project - the History of the heart of the Swan River – from the Narrows to the Causeway. She pointed out that although this part of the river has been and is central to the lives of all Western Australians, including our Indigenous people, there had never been a history of the river and its community connections.

Sue planned to use the extensive Battye Library collections as well as oral histories to document the history of Perth Water. Her talk was fascinating, providing us with insights into the highlights she would be further investigating during her research.

Some of us were fortunate to hear of her progress in a symposium she chaired on 9th June titled 'City and River'. As well as introducing a number of speakers concerned with the city's past and future planning, she also gave a paper on the history of the river that she had uncovered to date, with many fascinating pictures of the Perth foreshore during particular events. I hope we might persuade Sue to talk to us again in the near future.

Our Christmas function in November was made memorable by the launch of Professor Robert Reece's book: *Daisy Bates – Grand Dame of the Desert*. Bob spoke to us of Daisy's life and family and tackled the tricky question of her professionalism and objectivity. His dry humour made the talk entertaining as well as informative, and left many of us keen to read the book which was sold at the event by the Library bookshop staff.

The spit roast dinner on the fourth floor which followed was appreciated by all comers and has now become a tradition we all anticipate with pleasure.

The first speaker for 2008 was our Emeritus President Professor Geoffrey Bolton who spoke of his research into the life and career of the late Sir Paul Hasluck. With his inimitable style Geoffrey spoke of the tensions

between the public and private man and how this showed up in Sir Paul's writing over time. We look forward to the publication of this biography, - but before this, you should be aware that Geoffrey has recently published his long awaited History of Western Australia, titled *Vision and Mirage*. This is available now at the Library bookshop – and at a discount for the Friends.

Our next speaker, in May, was the acclaimed cultural critic David Hough who spoke of his research into the history of Boans, which used to be one of Perth's foremost Department Stores. David's talk was titled *Boans for service*, taken from their old slogan "if you can't get it at Boans, you can't get it in Perth". An excellent speaker, David painted a picture that brought back fond memories for many in his audience.

The year has seen the arrival in Perth of two people who will be of particular interest to the Friends of Battye Library. The first is Malcolm Traill who has just been appointed to the new position of Battye Librarian. Malcolm comes to us from Albany where he was the senior Local Studies Librarian. He is both a qualified archivist and a professional historian so we could not be more pleased or more fortunate with his appointment.

As you know many of us have had some fears about the downgrading of Battye Library under the re-structuring of the State Library, and Malcolm's appointment has done a lot to assuage these fears. We have also taken part in the survey of Battye Library's services, which was carried out by the History Council earlier this year, and we are awaiting the results of that survey with great interest. We will publish a summary of the results in a future newsletter and they will be of considerable assistance to Malcolm as he settles into his new job.

The second newcomer is Cathrin Cassarchis, the new Director of the State records Office – and she will be speaking to the meeting about her background and passions.

It gives me pleasure to report that our Sholl bequest projects are running smoothly. We have had a lot of difficulty in getting the finances through, and the \$9235 allocated for 2006 has just been awarded to the State Records Office for the continued indexing of the Colonial Secretary's Office files from 1883 onwards. The 2007 amount, \$16,754 has been awarded to Battye Library for the publication of Dead Reckoning on line, which will be an enormous help to researchers. Another \$4000 your committee has allocated to Dr Robyn Taylor for her project in listing all the Artists Artisans and manufacturers mentioned in Battye collections; a project she described in the last newsletter.

We are still owed a further \$8292 in Franking credits on these and other past

grants, which we understand has been approved by the Library Board. The Board has to oversee all issues concerning the Bequest.

Lastly the HRRC – our Historical Records Rescue Consortium is no more. Starting in June 2005 this group has exceeded all expectations, thanks to the fortitude and enthusiasm of Committee members and our project manager Pat Beament. We set out to rescue the most in demand and at risk newspapers, photographic negatives and film and we have over-shot our targets in each instance. The project microfilmed 833,808 pages of newspapers - 119% of target; 81,480 photographic negatives – 109% of target, as well as placing 46,236 images on line and available to the community – 231 % above target, and finally we saved 155 films – 103% of target.

To celebrate the completion of the project we had an exhibition in the Library foyer in January 2008 to show the community just what had been accomplished and this exhibition is now touring regional libraries. In addition DVDs of the films and reels of relevant microfilmed newspapers were presented to regional librarians on the 22nd of November last, and we have had very favourable feedback as to their usefulness.

The HRRC committee has been abandoned but their work will continue as the Friends of Battye Library is sponsoring a grant request from the Oral History Records Rescue Group, for nearly one million dollars, to save our precious oral history tapes. Our treasurer, Nick Drew, will be Treasurer for this group when it receives a grant, and many of the original HRRC members are active in this new group. Moreover I am delighted to report that most of the HRRC members have now become members of the Friends.

It remains for me to thank my committee members for all their dedication and support. My Vice President Gillian O'Mara who so cheerfully steps in when I am away and Graham Bown who has helped with minute taking. Tess Thompson our minute Secretary unfortunately has to resign as her son is seriously ill. We wish her well and thank her sincerely for all her efforts on our behalf. Thanks too to Rob O'Connor our legal advisor, Jim Gregg who sponsored our call for legislation to protect legal deposit, and Jennie Carter who has taken over the newsletter, except for the last one which was done in record time by Gillian, and of course our wonderful treasurer Nick Drew who battles with BAS reports and GST intricacies on our behalf.

We are sad to report the resignation of two of the committee members elected last year as a result of a change in Library policy, preventing staff

from being committee active members or office bearers. Fiona Caratozzolo and Jan Skillington have both been stalwarts on our committee over the years and we thank them very much for their contribution and hope to continue to see them at general meetings. Under the new ruling the CEO of the State Library, the Director of SRO and the Battye Librarian (or their representatives) will continue to attend Committee meetings in an ex-officio and advisory capacity.

Our next General Meeting will be on September 9th when we will be fortunate to hear from Professor David Black, who apart from his work on the history of Western Australian Government and all his political commentary has written a history of Perth Modern School which I am sure will be of intense interest to many of you.

Dr Pamela Statham Drew
President

Summary of annual report from Malcolm Traill (Battye Librarian)

In putting together this report, I have been quite amazed and impressed at the achievements over the past year of the State Library as a whole and the contribution that the Battye Library has made to those efforts.

The highlight of the year was probably the visit of the *National Treasures from Australia's Great Libraries* Exhibition in July and August 2008. Not only were some of the treasures of the State Library part of this exhibition, but we put together our own showpiece, *Our Prized Possessions*, in the exhibition area on the Ground Floor. This consisted of 70 items including such diverse gems as D.H. Lawrence's letters to Mollie Skinner, the records of Boans Department Store, and Carrolup artist Revel Cooper's exercise book. The National Treasures exhibition attracted almost 70,000 visitors in the 8 weeks it was on – an outstanding recognition of the value of cultural heritage in libraries.

The other major event was the purchase by the State Library of the Bussell Diaries, with the assistance of the Federal Government, the Shire of Busselton, and the Bussell Family. These thirteen diaries also included two volumes written by John Molloy. Not only do these complement the significant Bussell papers already held by the State Library, but they were the centrepiece of a major public event in Busselton last month to highlight their arrival. The diaries have been scanned and are available for viewing

on the State Library website at <http://www.liswa.wa.gov.au/bussell/diaries.html>

Many other significant items have been acquired. These include:

- Letters and journals of Henry William Bunbury
- Archives of the Civil Aviation Historical Society
- A visual diary of the Terri Charlesworth Ballet Centre
- Business records of the Adelaide Timber Company
- Images from Jigalong Mission
- Oral histories from the Metropolitan Cemeteries Board

An agreement with ScreenWest was signed to allow for the deposit with the State Library of a broadcast quality tape and at least one access copy of all films that received ScreenWest funding.

Some of the public and community events that have used Battye Library resources and expertise have included:

- The Adopt-A-Grave program, where secondary schools visit the East Perth Cemetery, and then come to the State Library to research some of those who have been buried there. This is a successful partnership with the National Trust who administers the cemetery.
- The Search, Engage and Know (SEaK) program has scheduled monthly events that use the resources of the Library and the expertise of Subject Specialists. These included sessions on family history, films, photographs, maps, original documents and research techniques.
- The *Living Histories – Western Australia in the 1950s* writing program, which published their stories in book form. The State Library was a partner in this program which will continue again this year.

Another of the crowning achievements, with the assistance of the Friends of Battye and Lotterywest, is of course the completion of the HRRC (Historic Records Rescue Consortium) Project. The totals of photographs digitised, newspapers microfilmed and films preserved exceeded all targets and the project was a model in the conservation and preservation of our documentary heritage. A spin-off of this has been the State Library's participation in the National Library's ANPLAN project which seeks to locate rare colonial newspapers and then to digitise them.

The State Library has also focussed on the preservation of historic West Australian documents by creating two new positions of Imaging Officers;

by appointing an archivist with the responsibility for oral history; and by enabling the addition of WA websites onto the National Library's Pandora Archive. Of course one of the major initiatives has been to create the positions of Battye Librarian and Battye Historian which have been filled by Malcolm Traill and Sarah Brown.

Another initiative to expose WA historic records to the wider world has been to ensure that all items from the catalogue appear on the Libraries Australia database and from here, these records will be made available via the specialist Google services like Google Book and Google Scholar.

As far as the volunteers are concerned, approximately 1700 hours of voluntary labour has been provided in the past year. Some of the projects that the volunteers have been working on include:

- Listing private archives such as the Bussell Collection, the Prinsep Collection, and the WA Tree Society Collection
- Indexing West Australian short stories
- Rehousing items from the photograph collection
- Barcoding oral history transcripts.

There are many more highlights to the year just past, from a Battye and State Library perspective. The full report has been tabled and is available to the meeting and members if required.

Malcolm Traill
Battye Historian / Librarian



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Bussell family in the grounds of Cattle Chosen, Busselton, in 1867.

(Battye Library 010864D)

State Records Office

Sholl Bequest

In March 2007 the SRO employed researcher Andrew Morant to commence the listing of Colonial Secretary's Office (CSO) files 1883 to 1918. This project is funded from the Maude Sholl bequest.

Andrew recommenced work on this project in late March 2008. This year he will work on this project for five months: three months of which is being funded from the Sholl bequest allocation for the project. To date Andrew has indexed CSO files up to mid 1888. The electronic listing created by Andrew will eventually be accessible on AEON, the SRO's online catalogue.

R & I Bank Records

During the first six months of 2008 the SRO employed a contract archivist, Piers Randell, to arrange and list approx fifty linear metres of Rural and Industries Bank records, which were transferred to the SRO from Bankwest in 2000. Piers's project is now completed and the records in this collection can be searched on AEON.

Legal Deposit Legislation

Members will be concerned to know that with the calling of the State election, the status of the proposed changes to the Library Board of Western Australia Act 1951 is now unclear. Legal Deposit used to be provided for under the Western Australian Copyright Act which, unfortunately, was abolished some years ago, since then the State Library has relied on the goodwill and generosity of publishers and authors to lodge copies of their publications for preservation in the Battye Library.

Consultation on the proposed amendments, including the urgent requirement for legal deposit provisions were undertaken in 2008 and the need for a new Act was widely accepted.. Sheila McHale has announced that she will be retiring at this election, so even if the Labor Party is successful, there will be a new Minister for Culture and the Arts who will need to be briefed on the crucial importance of legislating for legal deposit in this State.

Jennie Carter

Update on the Sholl Bequest - Battye Library

Family historians will be delighted to hear that the latest award of the Maude Sholl Bequest has gone to the updating and digitisation of the 1997 publication, *Dead Reckoning: How to Find Your Way through the Genealogical Jungle of Western Australia*.

This book, written by Battye Senior Subject Specialist Steve Howell, has proved invaluable to Western Australian historians and researchers, but is now rapidly dating in its content. With the additions of new material to key collections like the Battye Library and the State Records Office, and the exponential increase in online resources since Steve's first edition, this move is long overdue.

The bequest will be used to pay for Steve's time to work on the new edition. Steve plans to completely overhaul and add to the text and references, and to make the necessary online links to the multitude of websites that every agency now hosts. The resulting publication will then be loaded onto the web, via the SLWA home page.

The online version of *Dead Reckoning* will be fully searchable by keyword so there will be no need for the traditional index. It will also integrate with the SLWA catalogue so there will be immediate access to many of the references that the State Library holds.

The Battye reference staff and all who work in the field will eagerly anticipate the results of Steve's work, which, with the essential IT support, should be completed in the first months of 2009.

Malcolm Traill

WA Museum redevelopment

The opening of the new Western Australian Museum in 2015 will provide an opportunity for Hackett Hall to be returned to its original use by the State Library. The Friends of Battye Library committee believes that it would make a magnificent heritage home for the J.S. Battye Library of West Australian History. The Premier was written to earlier this year about the proposal and has responded that the future of Hackett Hall would be considered as part of the refurbishment of the Perth Cultural Centre complex. We will keep members posted as to developments.

Jennie Carter

Jack's Back

Janet's Jottings and the Jailbirds

One small but useful piece in the prolific literary output of our new centenarian, Rica Erickson, is the *Introduction* she wrote in 1980 for the facsimile reprint of a book first published in London in 1872. It was provided for *An Australian Parsonage: or, the Settler and the Savage in Western Australia* by Mrs Edward Millett. I have just read and again much enjoyed the book (now a total of 443 pages) for the third time.

Mrs Millett claimed she was setting down sketches of her own experiences and of the impressions she formed in the five years she lived here in the 1860s with her husband, who was then Colonial Chaplain at York. Two chapters each (out of sixteen) are devoted to earlier history and to natural history, but otherwise, after recounting their initial journey to York she largely dwells on the general conditions prevailing in the colony, much of it in anecdotal style.

It is hardly surprising that Mrs Millett put much emphasis on the results of the convict system when it was at its peak. 'The quick relays of convict ships were fast gorging the place with offenders' and 'hardened villains' at that, she wrote. Nine out of ten men in York were of the convict class, she claimed, thought admitting that some had done well. She also observed that the pivot on which society turned was the canvassing for the various Government contracts that supported the whole system. It was clear that the free settlers were hearily fed up with it all by the time transportation ended.

Another major component of the book is the focus on the Aboriginal inhabitants and their interaction with the settlers. It is nice to know how readily they were accepted at the parsonage in their comings and goings, and the Milletts were particularly attached to Khourabene and Binnahan, to whom they gave some employ. The writer also hoped that her book would provide useful information for people in Britain who were contemplating migration to the colony.

Rica's Introduction to the work rightly declares it a treasure trove of information for the historian. One important matter she discloses is that Edward Millett suffered from a painful neurological disorder that he relieved by taking morphia with consequent addiction to it. Quite unfairly, his health problems caused a serious and protracted contretemps with the local Resident Magistrate. And as shown the year before when Volume 3 of her *Dictionary of Western Australians* came out, Rica also indicates that the author's Christian name was Janet, a revelation that doubtless pleased

many a feminist and perhaps one or two thoroughgoing cataloguers!

My thirst to know more of the subject next led me to try that wonderful research tool that Battye Library's staff so assiduously assembled over the years - the *General Index*. There I found reference to a review of the original volume that appeared in the *Herald* newspaper of 2 March 1872. I soon had the microfilm out and was delight to see that the review occupied nearly three full columns. But what a calumny it runed out to be! Although the journalist admitted Mrs Millett's style was 'easy and agreeable', he had nothing else good to say about the work. Its constant purpose was to disparage everything colonial, he wrote, and it was a dismal and disheartening account of social life. 'The author entertains the most amiable partiality for the savages' but 'the bitterest prejudices against the convict class'. Her malicious observations would not do the cause of migration any good, and she was quite off the mark with her description of 'untidy' Fremantle.

It was and is quite well known that the proprietors and editors of the Fremantle newspaper were the former convicts, Pearce, Beresford, and Roe. The two latter were disgraced clerics, and both had evidently spent some time working in or near York - Beresford as tutor in the household of a prominent settler, and Roe as a schoolmaster. Though Mrs Millett touches briefly on local educational matters, she records no names in this regard, nor indeed elsewhere for any residents of York at all. So the chaplain and his wife were probably personally acquainted with these two men, but one can only conjecture if there may have been any ill-feeling between them. There may well be nothing more to it than the fact that these newspaper men were constantly championing the underdog and sniping at the ruling class.

All in all, the State's oldest inland town is fortunate indeed to have such a wealth of information as recorded by a keen observer at a particular period of its history that might otherwise be downplayed.

In conclusion, I choose to draw attention to one more snippet that intrigued me. When dealing with natural history, Janet Millett mentions the kangaroo and the emu as being supporters of the arms of Australia (and with the motto 'Advance Australia'). I was quite surprised thus to learn that Australia as such had any heraldic arms thirty years or more prior to Federation. A limited search I made of pertinent reference books failed to confirm it, but I shall look further some time!

Jack Honniball

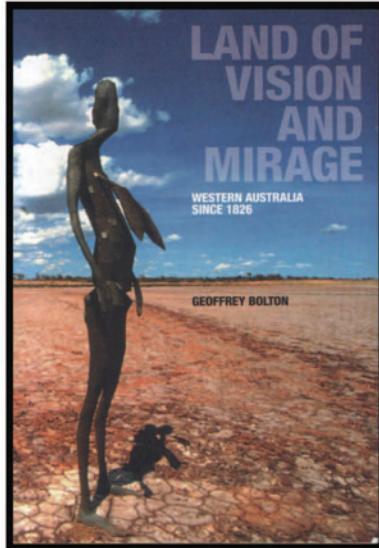
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NOV. 2008

FRIENDS OF BATTYE LIBRARY (Inc.) NEWSLETTER

ABN 571625138800



The meeting will be held on
Tuesday 25 November 2008,
5.00pm for 5.30pm start

Great Southern Room, 4th floor,
State Library of Western Australia.

End of year function

*Emeritus Professor Geoffrey
Bolton will speak on:*

*'Writing the State's
history:
Frank Crowley and
Geoffrey Bolton'*

*Geoff's address will be
followed by a catered
dinner held on the 4th floor
of the State Library. The
festivities will commence
at 6.30pm.*

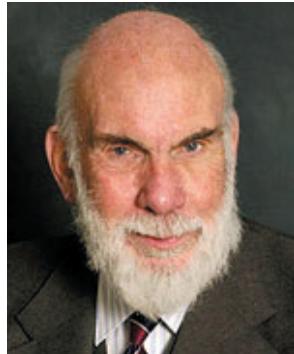
Please see details on Page 3

Our End of Year Meeting

Tuesday 25 November 2008

**Great Southern Room, 4th floor
State Library of Western Australia
5pm for 5.30pm.**

Our speaker will be Professor Geoffrey Bolton AO



Photograph
courtesy
Australian
of the Year
Awards.

Who will speak on writing the State's history and the approaches he and Dr Frank Crowley have both taken in undertaking this challenge.

Following the meeting you are invited to help us celebrate another successful year for the Friends and to join us for a catered dinner, which includes all drinks, on the 4th floor of the State Library, beginning at 6.30pm.

-- Cost \$25 per head --

Bookings are essential so please RSVP by 19th November 2008 to Jennie Carter on 9279 8777 or by email at bevnjen@gmail.com or Nick Drew on 9384 8154 or by email at nickdrew@bigpond.com.

Please note:

If any members have difficulty with taking the stairs to the fourth floor, please notify staff on either the ground floor reception desk or the Battye Library desk on the 3rd floor for access to the staff lift to the fourth floor.

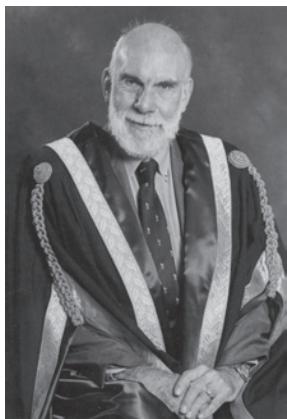
Land of Vision and Mirage.

Emeritus Professor Geoffrey Bolton's most recent book is the first major history of Western Australia since *A new history of Western Australia*, edited by Tom Stannage, was published in 1981.

Written in Geoff's characteristically clear, witty, and engaging style, *Land of Vision and Mirage: Western Australia since 1826* is a broad sweep of a story, boldly encompassing the political, socio-economic, and cultural forces that have shaped our unique State. Bolton's thesis is that the development of Western Australia, from the time the British first claimed the country to the present day, has largely been that of over-ambitious plans by a succession of visionaries which resulted in but "a modest growth". As he put it, "Perhaps that growth would not have occurred without the first prodigal input of capital and labour summoned up by the leaders, but it was more often the result of canny improvisation and unspectacular hard work by their followers."

Geoff Bolton's 'short history' is a thoroughly entertaining and thought provoking work and we are pleased to announce that copies of *Land of Vision and Mirage* will be available for purchase on the night.

Our speaker



Photograph courtesy
Murdoch University.

Geoff Bolton, Emeritus President of the Friends of Battye Library, needs little introduction. He is one of Australia's most eminent historians and a celebrated academic, scholar and teacher. Geoff was educated at Wesley College, the University of Western Australia and at Oxford University. He was Professor of Modern History at UWA in 1966 and in 1973 became Foundation Professor of History at Murdoch University. He was Chancellor of Murdoch University for the period 2002 to November 2006. During his distinguished career, Geoff has accumulated many awards and honours including Australian of the Year for 2006 and Officer of the Order of Australia (AO) in 1984 for his services to education. Geoff is currently working

on a biography of that other great Western Australian, Sir Paul Hasluck.

Jennie Carter

Message from the President.

Dear Friends,

Nick and I have just returned from a wonderful holiday in Canada and America and look forward to catching up with you at our end of year meeting and dinner on 25th November. A special feature will be the announcement of the winners of this year's Friends of Battye Library's 'Gems of Time' award.

On a sad note, we have just learned that Malcolm Traill has decided to resign from the position of Battye Librarian because of the difficulty of working part of the week in Perth and travelling to Albany which is his home, to spend time with his wife and family.

Malcolm was an excellent Battye Librarian and he will be very much missed in this role, not only by the history community generally, but also by the staff of the Library and the many friends he has made in the short time he has been working in the role.

Our very best wishes for the future go out to Malcolm and we are delighted to welcome him as a member of the Friends.

Pamela Statham Drew

State Library Bookshop - discount for members

The State Library has generously offered members of the Friends of Battye Library a 15% discount on new book purchases. To be eligible for the discount, members must show proof of name when making their purchases so staff can confirm that you are a current member.

Please note that the discount does not apply to secondhand books sold in the bookshop, nor to the Friends of Battye Library publications which are sold at an already discounted rate.

Archival quality materials

Remember the bookshop now stocks archival materials as recommended by the State Library's conservation staff. There are a variety of boxes, paper and card, photo enclosures, binders and gloves available to help us preserve our precious items.

Notes from the Battye Librarian

A major acquisition by the State Library has arrived in the shape of the Durack Papers, which consist of Dame Mary Durack's literary and personal papers, as well as the Durack Family historical archives. At a function last week, attended by the new Minister of Culture and the Arts, John Day, State Librarian Margaret Allen highlighted the significance of the collection and Dame Mary's part in WA's literary heritage, and also the work done by Dame Mary's daughter, Patsy Millett, who has devoted countless hours to sorting and ordering the papers.

Along with the manuscript of *Kings in Grass Castles*, Mary Durack's best-known work, there are rare documents and photographs that belonged to father and grandfather, to her husband Horrie Miller and to her daughter, Robyn Miller Dicks.

In the 76 archives boxes and 66 lever-arch files that make up the collection, there is a fabulous opportunity for archivists and volunteers to index the collection and make it accessible. This will begin almost immediately and, before long, we should be able to see the results in online archive listings.

New developments in digitising Battye materials

Exciting developments in scanning technology will be of interest to researchers and Friends of Battye Library. Caval, an academic library co-operative based in Melbourne, has purchased the first Kirtas high-speed scanner in the country and is making the facility available nationally. The scanner can operate at a speed of 2400 pages per hour, using two cameras to capture high-resolution images of books and other bound documents. Not only does it scan documents, but software can then turn these into fully-searchable files, so there is then no need for tedious manual indexing.

The State Library is interested in trialling this machine and State Librarian Margaret Allen has been to Melbourne with a volume of the *Police Gazette* in her luggage to use as a test. It will be fascinating to check the quality and the searchability of the scanning, and, if it is up to standard, there is every chance that we could be identifying other materials that we can add to our digital collection.

Malcolm Traill

Friends of Battye Library Committee members

In the last newsletter, the list of those elected at the Annual General Meeting held on 8th July, omitted the name of Dr Ronda Jamieson. Our sincere apologies and a warm welcome to Ronda. Here is the updated list of office bearers for the committee for 2008/2009.

Patron: Mrs Ruth Reid

President: Dr Pamela Statham Drew

Vice President: Mrs Gillian O'Mara

Secretary: Dr Alison Gregg

Treasurer: Mr Nick Drew

Newsletter/Membership: Ms Jennie Carter

Committee:

Mr Graham Bown, Mr Jim Gregg, Dr Ronda Jamieson, Mr Robert O'Connor Q.C, and Ms Lorraine Dearnley.

Ex-Officio:

Ms Margaret Allen CEO and State Librarian State Library of Western Australia	Mr Malcolm Traill Battye Librarian/Historian
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Ms Cathrin Cassarchis Director State Records Office	Mr Tom Reynolds Senior Archivist
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An appreciation to our members

A sincere thank you for your support of the Friends of Battye Library to new members and to those who have renewed their subscriptions for 2008/2009.

Your membership of the Friends is crucial in enabling us to undertake our many projects as well as our central role of building, preserving and publicising the collections and services of the J S Battye Library of West Australian History and the State Records Office.

Email addresses needed

To enable us to share information and keep members up to date on important happenings, a group email list for current members is being prepared. If you would like to be kept informed of important matters or forthcoming events relevant to the Battye Library and the State Records Office, please email me at bevnjen@gmail.com or Nick Drew at nickdrew@bigpond.com with your email details.

In October, I circulated details about forthcoming events for WA Week and Seniors Week in the State Library to members and. If you received this notice, then your email address has already been included on the list and you do not need to reply to me or Nick. If you are a new member or renewed your membership and included your email address, then your email address has also been added to the group list.

If you do not want to be sent any Friends of Battye Library information by email, please let me know.

Jennie Carter

Forthcoming events at the State Records Office

Lunchtime Seminars

Previously known as Sandwich Seminars, these events are designed to inform researchers about the State Records Office (SRO) and its collections. Speakers include SRO staff, researchers and Government agency staff. The program is organized by Gerard Foley of the SRO. The talks are usually held from 12.30 to 1.30 (on the advertised date) in the South-west room, which adjoins the SRO microfilm area on the ground floor of the Alexander Library Building.

On Thursday 11 September a full room of attendees listened to Bevan and Jennie Carter describe the early history of Armadale, as documented in archives at the SRO.

The final seminar for this year will be held on 18 November when Dr Jean Chetkovich will speak about the Centre for WA History at the University of Western Australia. Bookings are essential and can be made at the State Records Office Enquiry desk or on ph. 9427 3360 in the fortnight prior to seminar.

The State Records Office also welcomes suggestions for further seminar themes, as well as offers to present a seminar.

Tom Reynolds

Friends of Battye Library

You will notice some changes the next time you visit the 3rd floor Battye microform area.

ST200X DIGITAL MICROFORM SCANNERS

now available in the 3rd floor microform area and in the 1st floor Genealogy Centre



An Intuitive Scanning and Printing System

The ST200X digital microform scanning system allows you to easily view, edit, scan, email, print and save black & white and colour images to CD-ROM, SD card and flash drive. The ST200X reads 16mm and 35mm microfilm, microfiche, ultra fiche, 35mm slides or opaque micro cards.

If you need any help to use the ST200X please ask staff at the 1st and 3rd floor service desks. For further details on the ST200X and our future training sessions please call us on **9427 3111** or email askus@slwa.wa.gov.au



State Records Office news

Volunteers

Pat Paterson, and Ann and Bruce Buchanan are regular volunteers at SRO. Pat spends her Tuesdays relabeling archive boxes, and inserting stable liners in these boxes to protect the records stored within.

The Buchanans continue to index references to convicts in the CSO outward letterbooks.

Staff

Senior Archivist, Joanna Sassoon returned to SRO on 15 September.

Joanna was seconded to the Department of Indigenous Affairs in August 2007 to manage that agency's Stolen Wages research team. More recently Joanna has helped to organize, and has also presented papers at, the two archives conferences held in Perth in August 2008: the ICHORA and ASA conferences.

Senior Archivist, Gerard Foley, Convenor of the very successful ASA conference in August, has returned from a relaxing Italian holiday to begin his new role as the SRO's search room Coordinator. Both Gerard and Tim Lethorn were very busy finalising arrangements for the Geoffrey Bolton lecture.

Amanda Casselton joined the SRO in early October as an Advisory Officer with the Recordkeeping Services Team. The other Advisory Officer in this Team is Jessica Morris, who recently announced the expected arrival of her second child in March 2009. Friends who visit the SRO Search Room on Tuesdays will be familiar with Jessica's helpful service at the Enquiry Desk.

Meg Travers, who joined the SRO as Digital Archives Coordinator in mid 2007, has recently recruited Lyn Amery to the new contract position of Web Analyst/ Programmer within the SRO.

Tom Reynolds

State Records Office

Order of Australia award to long time researcher

Congratulations to Angus (Gus) Bottrill OAM, for being awarded the 'Order of Australia' for services to the Indigenous community of Western Australia on 12 September this year. Gus has conducted a prodigious amount of research on Aboriginal issues in the Battye Library and the State Records Office over the past 30 years.

I have a vivid memory of Gus in 1983 sitting in the middle of the old Battye Reading room and, between chuckles, commenting on correspondence between the WA Government and Prime Minister Menzies during the 1950s. At the time Gus was assisting the Aboriginal Legal Service with the preparation of a submission to the Commonwealth inquiry into British nuclear testing, off the Monte Bello Islands and at Maralinga.



His Excellency Dr Ken Michael AC, Governor of Western Australia, and Mr Angus Bottrill OAM, Awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia in the General Division for service to the Indigenous community, particularly through research and assistance with land title claims.

Photograph and text courtesy of Government House, Perth

Tom Reynolds
News from the State Library

Getting West Australian history out into the community is a prime focus of the State Library and three recent events highlight this area. WA Week has seen a number of high-profile history programs:

A session run by the Battye Fellow, Dr. Sue Graham-Taylor, on *Swan River Stories*. Sue invited the audience to share their memories of the Swan River and she will incorporate some of these into her final report when her fellowship is completed.

Battye Historian Sarah Brown convened a panel of post-graduate history students to talk about their research interests. Chris Owen (Policing in the Kimberley), Julie Lunn (Unemployed protestors during the Great Depression), and Jane Davis (Colonial responses to 'new' environments) all outlined their work and the challenges they face.

'Better Beginnings' program consultant Margaret Kett talked about and showed some Treasures from the Children's Literature Collection during Seniors' Week. The State Library has a prized collection of early WA and Australian children's books.

Battye Librarian Malcolm Traill spoke to high school history teachers about the resources and services provided by the State Library to teachers and students at a Curriculum Council Professional Development Day recently. The response was positive and we hope that this will translate into increased interest by schools in our collections and archives.

Jan's retirement

A sad day at the State Library last week when Collection Development Archivist Jan Skillington marked her retirement with a well-attended afternoon tea and presentation. Margaret Allen paid tribute to Jan's many years of service to the State Library (which began way back in the 1960s!) in many different roles. To the Friends of Battye, Jan was best known for her archival skills and knowledge, and her willingness to do everything she could to improve the library's collection. Latterly in her role in Collection Development, she brought her passion to the acquisition of many significant collections and publications, culminating in the purchase of the Bussell and Durack papers. Jan will be missed from the State Library but assures us that she will maintain her membership

[Editor's note: *In the light of the late news that Malcolm has decided to resign from the position of Battye Librarian, we thank him sincerely for his hard work on behalf of the Battye Library and his support of the Friends.*]

Malcolm Traill

Sholl Bequest

In March 2007 the SRO employed researcher Andrew Morant to commence the listing of Colonial Secretary's Office (CSO) files 1883 to 1918. This project is funded from the Maude Sholl bequest.

Andrew recommenced work on this project in late March 2008. This year he will work on this project for seven months: three months of which is being funded from the Sholl bequest allocation for the project. To date Andrew has indexed CSO files up to mid 1889. The electronic listing created by Andrew will eventually be accessible on AEON, the SRO's online catalogue.

The Sholl Bequest has also funded an online publication of Steve Howell's much requested, but now out of print book, *Dead Reckoning: How to find your way through the genealogical jungle of Western Australia* which was first published by the Library Board of WA in 1997. The bequest money will allow Steve, who is currently the State Library's Senior Subject Specialist: Battye, to bring his popular and sought after manual up to date and include links to key sources and documents useful to researchers.

Exhibitions and events

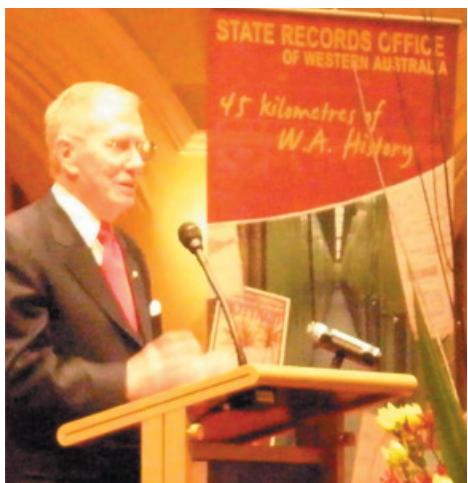
Earth from Above: an aerial portrait of our planet – towards sustainable development, is an outdoor photography exhibition by Yann Arthus-Bertrand which presents breathtaking views of the world and mankind's impact on it. From 15 October 2008 to 21 January 2009 at the Cultural Centre Plaza, Northbridge, Perth

To complement this exhibition the State Library is hosting a talk series and displays reflecting on climate and sustainability through WA's documentary heritage.

Don't miss the special event on Wednesday 10 December at 6.00pm in the State Library Theatre when Battye Fellow, Dr Sue Graham-Taylor, presents *A sustainable future for Western Australia: How can we learn from the past?* For further information please see <http://www.liswa.wa.gov.au/efa.html> or ring Jane Jones, Community Liaison Librarian, on 9427 3248.

Geoffrey Bolton Lecture 2008

The fifth lecture in this series, (named in honour of Emeritus Professor Geoffrey Bolton AO), was presented by the eminent High Court Judge, Honourable Justice Michael Kirby AC on 20 October 2008 in the Government House Ballroom to a large audience. Among the many eminent guests attending were the Governor, his Excellency Dr Ken Michael AC and Mrs Michael, the Hon. John Day, Minister for Culture and the Arts, Emeritus Professor Geoff Bolton, Ms Cathrin Cassarchis Director of the State Records Office, and the Hon Justice Wayne Martin QC who introduced Justice Kirby.



Justice Michael Kirby AC

Michael Kirby expressed a great admiration for Geoff Bolton as a legal historian and his outstanding biography of Edmund Barton, our first Prime Minister and founding Justice of the High Court of Australia. Kirby titled his address *Is Legal History now Ancient History?* and called passionately, and persuasively, for the reinvigoration of history, specifically legal history, teaching in Australia's law schools.

Justice Kirby recalled how his own career might have taken a very different path if he had pursued an early interest in studying history, but “Alas, Neb-heput-re-mentohotep and the Pharaohs proved my nemesis” so, thankfully for our own legal history, Kirby abandoned Ancient History at Sydney University to attend the Sydney Law School. He was fortunate that compulsory studies in legal history were a feature of his training in the law during the late 1950s and early 1960s.

By the 1980s, however, the study of history had “virtually disappeared from most of the Australian law courses”. The blame was laid on how the subject had been taught in the past, with an over emphasis on medieval English law, and its perceived irrelevancy to the understanding and practice of contemporary Australian law. Justice Kirby cited the example that out of 31 law schools now operating in Australia, only eleven institutions offered a course in history. Most of these were electives which few students chose and only four universities, Australian National

University, University of Technology Sydney, Murdoch and Notre Dame, included the study of history in its mainstream courses.

In Kirby's view, "the almost total abandonment of the teaching of legal history in Australian law schools is a most undesirable, even shocking, development", which needs to be changed. Our legal system is a product of history and without an understanding of the context in which legislation has been framed, "the narrative of liberty" as Justice Kirby put it, lawyers risk misinterpretation and "grievous mistakes".

Justice Kirby gave as examples three recent cases heard by the High Court in which a sound understanding of the historical context in which the Australian Constitution was framed was essential to the verdict, yet they were not, in Kirby's opinion, given due consideration when reaching a conclusion. The effect was, in at least one of the cases, to 'remove a long understood protection for industrial justice that will probably now never be restored'.

In concluding his address, Kirby gave a call to arms.

I hope that in these remarks, which I dedicate to Geoffrey Bolton, I will enliven a new concern amongst those with the power of action to rekindle the teaching of legal history in Australia. The decline and fall has gone far enough. It must be stopped. We have no time to lose. We have been warned.

The address was followed by refreshments and judging by the buzz of conversation, the evening was hugely enjoyable. Congratulations to Cathrin and her staff, in particular Gerard Foley and Tim Lethorn, for all their hard work behind the scenes to ensure that the 2008 Geoffrey Bolton Lecture was a great success.

The full transcript as well as a podcast of Justice Michael Kirby's address can be found on the State Records Office website at <http://www.sro.wa.gov.au/whatsnew/GeoffreyBoltonLecture.asp>.

Jennie Carter

Hon. John Day and his Excellency Dr Ken Michael.



History in the Pub

The History Council of Western Australia hosted another successful 'History in the Pub' session at the Hyde Park Hotel on Friday 17 October 2008.

The topic for the evening was *Finding HMAS Sydney*, a personal perspective and the speaker was Wes Olsen, author of *Bitter Victory: the death of HMAS Sydney*.



Wes Olsen.

Photo courtesy of Rob O'Connor

Wes spoke engagingly about his long held interest in the fate of the *Sydney* and his role in the discovery of its wreck off the Western Australian coast earlier this year.

The cruiser, *HMAS Sydney*, was sunk by the German battleship the *Kormoran* and, tragically, all 645 of the *Sydney*'s crew were to lose their lives in the encounter. The actual site of the sunken ship had been under contention for over 60 years with a number of conflicting theories as to its whereabouts.

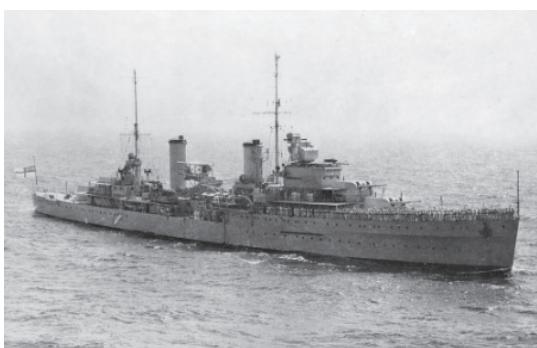
The *Kormoran* was also sunk during the battle but survivors of the German ship were not believed when they provided information as to the place where the ships went down. A Government grant allowed renowned wreck finder, David Mearns, to be brought to Australia and assisted by Wes and other researchers such as Glenys McDonald, herself an author of a book on the sinking of the *Sydney*, Mearns

pinpointed the site. A major aid in unlocking the secret was the discovery of a code contained in a dictionary owned by the German Captain of the *Kormoran*.

A special guest at the event was Tom, a former sailor who was on the *Sydney* until three weeks before it was sunk.

A lively question time followed Wes's talk and it was clear that the fascinating story of the detective work involved in finding the remains of one of Australia's greatest disasters, as well as the poignancy of the subject touched many of us in the audience.

Jennie Carter



HMAS Sydney, April 1940. Photo courtesy Australian War Memorial No. 006400.

Edward and Janet and their travels

Once again I am offering a supplement to a piece I have previously written for this column. In our last issue my subject was Janet Millett and her fascinating book of 1872, *An Australian Parsonage*. So I am now presenting photographs of both Janet and her husband, the Reverend Edward Millett, neither of which has been published before, as far as I know.

These likenesses were the work of C Combe, photographer, of Brighton, in 1863, the year the couple came out to Western Australia. Copies of them have long been held by both the Battye Library and the Royal Western Australian Historical Society. So it seems rather a pity they were not reproduced along with the new Introduction to the facsimile edition of the book in 1980.



Edward Millett 1863. Courtesy
Royal WA Historical Society and
Battye Library. 25806P

We read in the book that the Milletts were fond of travelling - by horse and buggy - in the vicinity of York and some distance afield. It is also on record that Mr Millett (alone) made one trip to Perth for a clergy conference in January 1867. But, apart from this, it seems likely the couple never left the Eastern Districts for the whole five years they were in the colony. Their lengthy stay in such an isolated outpost of civilisation must indeed have been a great contrast to their experience of life in Britain beforehand and after. So I thought it might be of general interest to set down here the few biographical details that are readily available.

Edward Millett was born in 1825, earned his B.A. degree at Cambridge

in 1847 and was ordained deacon in 1851 up in the diocese of York. It was in 1853 that he married Janet, daughter of Joseph Webster of Penns in Warwickshire. Before coming to Australia, Millett served (curacies) in two large parishes, so Janet has recorded; the first was in or near Pembroke in the south west extremity of Wales, and the other evidently back in central England in the diocese of Peterborough.

After their return to Britain early in 1869, the pair must have been glad to do their travelling on the railway lines which had come to criss-cross the land in the past forty years. In 1869 the cleric again served a curacy in far Pembrokeshire and then from 1870 to 1872 at Kimmeridge on the coast of Dorset in the diocese of Salisbury. Finally he was stationed at Gautby, a village some twelve miles east of the cathedral city of Lincoln.

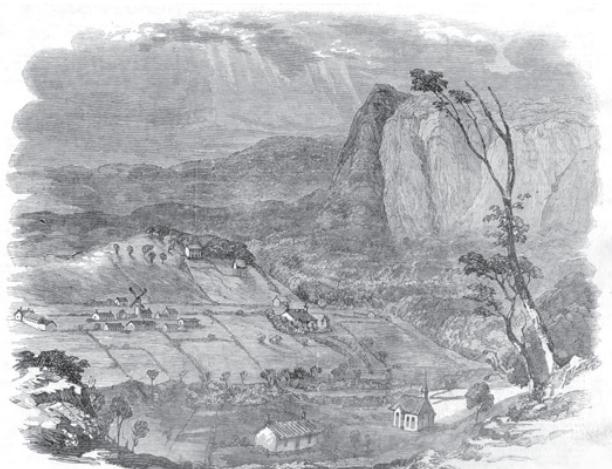
Edward Millett died at Gautby in April 1876, and Janet survived him till October 1904; but I have not found where she spent her widowhood.

(For my sources, I am indebted to Father Ted Doncaster, the late Professor Ken Cable, and early editions of *Crockford's Clerical Dictionary*.)

Jack Honniball



Janet Millett 1863. Courtesy Royal WA Historical Society and Battye Library.
25805P



View of York - after a sketch by Capt. R E Henderson 1857. Courtesy Battye Library 009667D