





# PROFESSIONAL HISTORIANS ASSOCIATION (SA) INC.

ABN 92 596 068 104

— incorporating news from the —

# PROFESSIONAL HISTORIANS ASSOCIATION (NT) INC.

## SOUTH AUSTRALIA

PO Box 3345, Rundle Mall

Adelaide 5000

MessageBank (08) 8411 0161

## NORTHERN TERRITORY

PO Box U 517

NT University

Northern Territory 0815

PHA (SA) President's Report – October 2011	1
PHA (NT) Annual General Meeting – 16 August 2011	3
ACPHA Report	5
History Council of SA Meeting	6
Happenings at History SA	7
Recent Acquisitions at the State Library Archives	10
New Coordinator for Archival Collection Development at the State Library	14
Megg's Conference Year	14
'Bringing Together' ACPHA Conference – 5-7 August 2011	18
Australian Mining History Association Conference – 12-18 September 2011	23
Member Profile – Judy Fander	25
McDouall Stuart Continental Crossing – 150 <sup>th</sup> Celebrations in 2012	26
Launch of <i>Felix Ernest Holmes: Darwin 1890-1930</i>	27
Field Trip to Victoria River Downs Station	29
Statement of Accounts and Independent Audit Report – 2010-11	31

### PHA (SA) membership fees:

**Professional Historian \$90; Associate Professional Historian \$65;  
Graduate Historian \$55; Historical Researcher \$50; Concession \$50.  
Friend (Newsletter subscriber) \$35**

The Newsletter is published in March, July and November

**The deadline for contributions to the March 2012 issue is mid February 2012**

**Cover:** Plaques commemorating Felix Holmes and the site of Darwin's first public 'power station' (courtesy Bev Phelts)

***PHA (SA) Executive Committee 2011 - 2012***

Geoff Speirs, President,	<geoffems@internode.on.net>
Bridget Jolly, Vice President,	<brimar@esc.net.au >
Anne Richards, Secretary and Public Officer,	<anne.richards@gawler.sa.gov.au>
Yvonne Routledge, Treasurer	<routledge@smartchat.net.au>
Lesley Abell, Membership Secretary,	<maillja@optusnet.com.au>
Caroline Adams, Programs and Activities Coordinator	<caro@senet.com.au>
Bridget Jolly, Web Manager,	<brimar@esc.net.au>
--- National Archives Consultative Forum,	
Jenny Tilby Stock, Newsletter Editor (ex-officio),	<jenny.stock@adelaide.edu.au>
Geoff Speirs, ACPHA delegate,	<geoffems@internode.on.net>
Caroline Adams, Alternate ACPHA Delegate,	<caro@senet.com.au>
Jenny Tilby Stock, History Council Representative,	<jenny.stock@adelaide.edu.au>
Brian Dickey, Accreditation Appeal Panel,	<brian.dickey@flinders.edu.au>
Pauline Payne, Expert Advice Panel,	<pe.payne@bigpond.com>

***PHA (NT) Branch Committee 2010 - 2011***

Dr Steve Farram, President  
Alan Davis, Vice President & ACPHA Representative  
Ms Kathy De La Rue, Acting Secretary  
Dr Bev Phelts, Treasurer and Public Officer  
Dr Wendy Beresford-Maning, Executive member

Articles, reviews, letters and notices are welcome. Please e-mail copy.

Contact

Jenny Tilby Stock (editor)  
<jenny.stock@adelaide.edu.au>

Disclaimer

Except for official announcements the Professional Historians Association (SA) Inc. accepts no responsibility for expressions of opinion contained in the publication. The views expressed in articles, commentaries and letters are the personal views and opinions of the authors.

Copyright of this publication: PHA (SA) Inc.

Copyright of articles and commentaries: the respective authors

# **PHA (SA) PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

## **(October 2011)**

Our AGM on 13 July ran smoothly. In the convivial surroundings of the Edinburgh Hotel at Mitcham, we enjoyed a talk by SA Museum Director Suzanne Miller. Formerly a Keeper of Natural Sciences in the Museum of Scotland, Suzanne is keenly interested in history. She spoke about potential redevelopments along the North Terrace Cultural Precinct, focusing on an expanded museum with a strong history component. Suzanne would like the PHA (SA) to be involved in planning for the redevelopment, something our new Executive Committee certainly wishes to do.

The Executive Committee members for 2011-12 are:

President	Geoff Speirs
Vice-President	Bridget Jolly
Secretary & Public Officer	Anne Richards
Treasurer	Yvonne Routledge
Membership Secretary	Lesley Abell
Programs and Activities Co-ordinator	Caroline Adams

Additional executive roles:

ACPHA delegate	Geoff Speirs
Alternate delegate	Caroline Adams
Webmaster	Bridget Jolly
Accreditation Appeal Panel	Brian Dickey
Expert Advice Panel	Pauline Payne
History Council Representative	Jenny Stock

My warm thanks to retiring members Carol Cosgrove and Bernie O'Neil for their longstanding contributions. I've valued their expertise and advice for the five years I've been on the Executive Committee, and their departure will leave a large gap. I'd also like to express my appreciation to June Donovan for her work on the National Archives Consultative Forum. June is also stepping down from this role and her contributions have been timely and important as the saga of the proposed relocation and closure of the archives continues in its various guises.

The inaugural ACPHA Conference on 5-6 August was a great success. Run in tandem with the State History Conference, it achieved an attendance of some 230 (60 or so registering primarily for the ACPHA component). It was a great opportunity to rekindle friendships that all too often these days seem, in the words of Paul Simon, to be 'slip sliding away', and to make new ones, including among our interstate colleagues. We had a very enjoyable dinner on the Friday evening.

The range and quality of the papers was exceptional. Ruth Donovan opened with an interesting account of the origins and growth of professional historian associations across Australia, that followed the emergence of the 'public history' movement in the United States in the 1970s but set its own distinctively Australian pattern. All participants will have gained something from the papers. I found Peter Cahalan's talk on history and tourism particularly engaging, especially his idea of 'thinking theatre' for historical presentations, and the success of such a show at Steamtown, Peterborough. People now stay overnight in the town in order to see this performance, which is shown in the evening on a huge screen at the museum. It was interesting to look at trends presented by Mary Sheehan and Emma Russell: academic historians down to 310 in 2011 from 750 in 1971; PHA members up from 305 in 1994 to 450 in 2011. They then argued the case for professional development, which in fact is being adopted as a policy by PHA (Vic), with measurements and ratings of members for a combination of formal education and training, ongoing attendance at conferences, presentations and papers and collegiate services. We'll keep a watching brief on this development.

Another paper I found intriguing was Jack Cross's account of writing the *Great Central State*, influenced in the shaping of the book by Douglas Pike's rules for writing *Paradise of Dissent* – the first draft to be written entirely from the records; the second draft to be written after closely studying all known secondary sources, and then for each chapter to be re-written at least 12 times! I was interested enough to buy the book, published by Wakefield Press. Its editors apparently 'challenged the book line by line', and I'm looking forward to studying it in detail to see how it stands up. Martin Gordon's stimulating and often amusing presentation on using film for historical presentation also offered much food for thought, with its emphasis on unleashing human emotion through harnessing the power of sight and hearing in relation to historical localities and events. I also liked the way Karen George and David Smids used film and sound to document the use of linotype machines through an interview with Rob Wilson, former editor of the *Pinnaroo Times*.

At the opening of the conference the second issue of *Circa*, our national journal, was launched by ACPHA President Sonia Jennings. Copies have been distributed to all ACPHA members, and few could dispute editor Katherine Sheedy's claim that the articles have lived up to members' high expectations. All the articles are interesting in their own right, but also have practical applications for historians. For example, the implications of building an historical collection around a disaster such as the Victorian bushfires; problems associated with writing company histories when the archives are inadequate and poorly maintained, and

the relevant families don't want certain information disclosed; administrative history as social history; the importance of interviews, and interviewing the right people, in order to document contemporary history, and so on. This is an excellent journal, and I hope that ACPHA will be able to find a way of keeping it going.

Although there were some teething problems, ACPHA was delighted with the conference, and is keen to make it a biennial event. So it's likely that there will be another ACPHA conference in 2013, probably in Sydney.

Two more events are planned for this year: a tour of Artlab on Wednesday 23 November at 10 am, and our Christmas barbecue, to be held this year at Beth Robertson's home overlooking the Wittunga Botanic Gardens on Sunday 11 December. A dinner in honour of Bernie's outstanding contribution to both the PHA (SA) and ACPHA will also be held in mid-November. And of course there are always the Tuesday lunches – so keep in touch!

Geoff Speirs

## **PHA (NT) ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (16 August 2011) PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

The PHA (NT) continued its role of advocating for its members and for the Northern Territory history community in general throughout the 2010-2011 period, although it was a relatively quiet year after the last year's busy campaign to prevent the closure of the National Archives of Australia (NAA) Darwin office. Major activities included putting members in touch with outside parties seeking the services of an historian, supporting the History SA State Conference and the inaugural ACPHA Conference and co-ordinating the NT History Colloquium in 2010, and again this year.

### *Hakka Association and CDU*

The Hakka Association in Darwin approached the president seeking the services of an historian to help write the history of their community, eventually being put in touch with a member of the PHA (NT). The president was also approached by Charles Darwin University who were seeking, at very short notice, a History lecturer to teach a unit for the

remainder of the semester. The job ultimately went to a PHA (NT) member through a recommendation from another member.

### *History SA State Conference and ACPHA Conference*

The joint conferences were held in Adelaide on 5-7 August. As the year 2011 marked the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of South Australia's surrender of the Northern Territory to Commonwealth administration it was considered that NT history should feature in the ACPHA conference, which was jointly hosted by PHA (SA) and PHA (NT). PHA (NT) sponsored member Megg Kelham to attend the conference and present a paper.

### *NT History book award*

It was gratifying to see that the three books short-listed for the annual Chief Minister's History Book Award were all authored by PHA (NT) members. The winner was Mickey Dewar's *Darwin – No Place like Home: Australia's northern capital in the 1950s through a social history of housing*. The other two were Alan Powell's *Northern Voyagers: Australia's monsoon coast in maritime history* and Matthew Stephen's *Contact Zones: sport and race in the Northern Territory, 1869-1953*.

### *NT History Colloquium*

The annual History Colloquium was held at the Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory's (MAGNT) theatre on Saturday 6 November 2010. There were seven speakers and a good-sized crowd in attendance throughout the day. The symposium was co-ordinated by the PHA (NT), MAGNT, the Australian National University (ANU) and Charles Darwin University (CDU). Not one, but two book launches took place during the day; Mickey Dewar's *Darwin – No Place like Home* and Adam Henry's *Independent Nation: the evolution of Australian foreign policy 1901-1946: Australia, the British Empire and the origins of Australian-Indonesian relations*. Both books were launched by Emeritus Professor David Carment. The ANU postgraduates who participated in the event expressed much thanks for the enthusiasm of the Darwin audience for their papers. The 2011 Colloquium will be held on Saturday, 29 October. The event is now on track, with five speakers committed to give presentations, and reserve speakers from the ranks of the PHA in place.

Steve Farram



## **AUSTRALIAN COUNCIL OF PROFESSIONAL HISTORIANS ASSOCIATIONS INC.**

ACPHA held its AGM on Sunday, 7<sup>th</sup> August, the last day of the State History Conference and immediately following the first ACPHA conference (5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> August). It proclaimed its pleasure at the way the conference was organised by PHA (SA) although there were some mixed responses, the main criticisms being the lack of a keynote speaker, and that the launch of the second issue of the ACPHA journal, *Circa*, hadn't been given enough of a platform. Bernie O'Neil and I responded that we had experienced considerable difficulty in getting input from ACPHA during the planning phase, and that we believed we had given *Circa* a satisfactory launch, at the beginning of the conference. ACPHA is now considering whether or not it will hold a second conference, which would probably take place in Sydney in 2013 (although there has been a subsequent development with AHA which might lead to a joint conference in Wollongong that year).

President Sonia Jennings gave her report for the year; highlights included supporting PHA (Vic)'s production of the second issue of *Circa*, and the inaugural conference. Treasurer Judy Nissen reported that the current investment account stood at around \$14,000.

Other general items of business discussed included the need for a national strategy to promote professional historians, the notion of ACPHA hosting state PHA Web pages, affiliation/collaboration with AHA (on which, see note below) and the PHA (Vic) structured professional development program. Concern was expressed at the high costs and low financial return of producing and circulating *Circa*, an issue for serious consideration in the future.

The meeting directed Sonia Jennings to attend an AHA executive meeting in Sydney on 16 September, along with Publicity and Promotions Officer Pauline Curby of PHA (NSW). The aim was to consider closer ties with AHA, the upshot being an agreement that ACPHA would affiliate with AHA for one year on a trial basis. One result of this may well be collaboration with AHA in its 2013 annual conference at Wollongong.

Bernie was thanked for the time and effort he has put into the executive committee in his various roles over a six-year period.

Geoff Speirs  
PHA (SA) Delegate to ACPHA.

# HISTORY COUNCIL

## General Meeting - 26 September 2011

*Present* Wilf Prest (chair), Lauren Gobbett, Greg Slattery, Daryl Best, Carol Fort, Adrian Rudzinski, Annette Mills, Geoff Bishop, Jacinta Weiss, Jenny Stock

*Apologies* John Bannon, Alan Mayne, Margaret Anderson, Elspeth Grant

*Executive* Two further members agreed to be coopted on – Annette Mills (SLSA) and Jacinta Weiss (ASA SA branch)

*General Council* membership – discussion of other historical groups we might ask to join. Currently there is no Indigenous or Museums SA representation.

### **President's Report**

Wilf had attended various NSW History Week functions and been impressed with the commitment to History from the highest levels there.

As the 175<sup>th</sup> draws to a close, we hope that the new SA Premier will prove receptive to the role of History in SA's well-being, and willing to engage more closely with the historical community.

*Historian of the Year* We discussed how such an award or awards, including a 'Young historian of the year' might be managed, both to encourage the recognition of the profession and to raise the HCSA's profile as a peak body. The Executive is to crystallise the proposal at its next meeting.

*2012 Planning* We expect to put on another Forum in History Month. Names for next year's annual lecture were canvassed (probably to be a local woman speaker). The possibility of repeating the lecture at a country or outer suburban venue was later raised.

### **Communication**

It was suggested that the use of subcommittees and/or working parties might give members of Council more focus.

The re-institution of regular presentations by member organisations at our meetings was suggested.

To become better known, we could offer to speak at local venues such as libraries.

*Review* As we approach our tenth anniversary, Wilf has suggested having an outside expert do a review of the History Council. The Executive is to issue an invitation to Kate Reynolds.

## **Other Business**

Discussion of how to devise an annual user-friendly data-base of new publications in SA history, including journal articles and theses.

Where no conflict of interest exists, we agreed that HCSA should be able to assist grant applicants with a letter of endorsement for worthy projects.

The new 2-year membership is causing confusion at renewal time, and the Executive is to clarify or amend the options.

*Mortlock Wing.* Its possible transfer from the Library to the Museum is of concern, and Wilf hopes to speak with Alan Smith and the relevant Minister.

*City of Adelaide.* We hope to get the professional presentation made by Peter Roberts at the AGM on 6 September up onto the website.

**Treasurer's Report** The History Council of SA spent a lot this year on getting the website up and on our interstate speaker. We endorsed a new auditing statement required by the Tax Office.

Jenny Stock

## **HAPPENINGS AT HISTORY SA**

### **'In Perspective: rethinking South Australia's history'**

This special State History Conference to mark 175 years since the official foundation of the Province of South Australia was held over three days, from 5 to 7 August, at the National Wine Centre, Adelaide, in conjunction with the inaugural national Australian Council of Professional Historians Association conference. A total of 224 delegates attended and heard papers on a range of topics across the two conference streams. Many of the State History Conference papers took the opportunity offered by the conference theme, 'rethinking South Australia's history', to present new perspectives or research as thought-provoking papers on topics including identity, migration history, planning and architecture, and Aboriginal rights. Delegates followed with engaged questions, and lively discussion continued into the breaks.

This year we extended the conference invitation to the many historians in other parts of Australia who have lived or worked in South Australia, or worked on South Australian sources. As a result, we welcomed many interstate presenters and delegates, including eminent historians who

enlivened the wide-ranging discussion. Conference presenters enjoyed the generous hospitality of Governor and Mrs Scarce at a vice-regal reception on the Friday evening, and many conference delegates enjoyed the conference dinner at the Wine Centre on Saturday evening.

## **‘About Time’ History Festival**

History SA is pleased to announce that in 2012 the ‘About Time: South Australia’s History Festival’ will run for the whole month of May. History SA has received some funding from Arts SA to make this possible.

South Australia’s first month-long history festival this year was a great success, with over 500 events across the state presented by over 300 event organisers. During ‘About Time’ over 94,000 people participated in at least one festival event. Engaging with South Australia’s history has never been so popular!

‘About Time’ events in 2011 ranged from a historically-themed dinner to workshops for children, and included guided tours on foot, by bus and car; all-day symposiums; exhibitions and displays; book launches; film screenings; performances; talks and workshops – and, for the first time, digital history. Events were held across the state, from Farina to Port Lincoln, Radium Hill to Maitland and from Mount Gambier to Renmark, with most events in the Adelaide metropolitan area, and 116 in the Adelaide City Council area.

We are hoping that the 2012 program will be just as rich. Registrations will open in November.

## **South Australian community history website**

If you haven’t looked at the website, [www.community.history.sa.gov.au](http://www.community.history.sa.gov.au), in the last few weeks, take another look and see what’s changed. There are now 90 separate museums and historical organisations profiled on the site, and a multitude of historical events listed in the events calendar. There are also news stories being added every week about items of historical interest and the activities of museums and historical groups from around the state.

Members of the PHA are very welcome to list their services on the website. Simply go to the ‘Practical Advice – services directory’ section of the site, download the form and email it to History SA.

## **Beachport Museum launches Aboriginal history display**

A major new display at Beachport Old Wool and Grain Store Museum is introducing Aboriginal history and perspectives into the region.

‘One Land, Two Cultures’ was officially opened on 6 August 2011 by the Mayor of Wattle Range District Council, Peter Gandolfi, and Marcia Lorenz, and the event was attended by around 100 people. Aboriginal elder Dulcie Wilson spoke about the importance of the display and Major Sumner conducted a smoking ceremony in the museum and display room.

The display ‘One Land, Two Cultures’, is the culmination of intensive research and consultation conducted over five years by Beachport Museum volunteer Marcia Lorenz. The museum aims to tell the history of the Beachport district, something which, until now, has not included the history of the Buandik people.



*Figure 1 – Mayor Peter Gandolfi and Marcia Lorenz opening the ‘One Land, Two Cultures’ exhibition at the Beachport Old Wool and Grain Store Museum (courtesy History SA)*

The display tells, from a European viewpoint, the story of the invasion and settlement of the lower South East in the early 1800s and the effects it had on the local Buandik people. Made of canvas panels, 'One Land, Two Cultures' includes text, photographs and artefacts. Many of the images used are from the Les Hill Collection in the Mount Gambier Library. Two grants from History SA's Community Museums program allowed the display to be professionally designed and produced.

Amanda James

## **RECENT ACQUISITIONS AT THE STATE LIBRARY ARCHIVES**

### **Archival Groups**

Archival items from the old 'A-piece' collection, now being catalogued on-line, include some interesting finds:

D 8469 (L)

Letter of introduction written by Governor Sir James Fergusson to the Duke of Buckingham, Secretary for the Colonies, for Henry Ayers and his wife Ann for their 1871 visit to England. The Governor makes 'snobbish references' to the lowly origins of the Ayers couple, which the Archivist in the former SA Archives thought 'might well be kept secret for some twenty more years' (actually until 1955!). Fergusson also makes interesting comments on his own role in the parliamentary crisis earlier in 1870.

D 8470 (L)

Letter written by Arthur Blyth, Chief Secretary to W.H. Bunday, Minister of Justice & Education, relating to his having just heard, by telegraph via Charles Todd, of the wreck of the *Gothenburg* near Flinders Island in Queensland, 3 March 1875. Blyth was woken at 2 a.m., and his letter instructs Bunday 'not to go to Mrs Wearing or to Mrs Whitby as it can do no good'. (Justice W.A. Wearing and Joseph Whitby, SA's Crown Solicitor, were later reported drowned.)

D 8476 (Misc)

Original documents (the agreement and receipt dated 16 August 1845) relating to the purchase of 20,000 acres of land on the Burra creek, jointly by the 'Snobs' and 'Nobs' partnerships, as neither party alone could raise the required amount. (After drawing lots, the Snobs took the

land which produced the 'Monster Mine', with the Nobs taking the land later developed as Princess Royal Station.)

D 8478 (Misc)

Typescript extracts from newspapers, diaries and old colonists' recollections (covering years 1837-1935) regarding the position and identity of the tree near where the Proclamation ceremony took place on 28 December 1836.

D 8483 (Misc)

Admission ticket for Portbury's Fortnightly Ball, Adelaide Tavern, for a Tuesday of July 1838. (Adelaide Tavern was on the north side of Franklin Street, near West Terrace, with its 'Theatre Royal' located upstairs in a room 50 feet by 18 feet, which had opened in May that year.)

D 8496 (L)

A letter written by Governor Sir Richard Graves MacDonnell, 23 July 1858 to Thomas Jones, assuring him an adequate supply of horses would be available for his imminent trip to 'the Goolwa' with his wife, her maid and two men servants.

D 8499 (L)

Diary by Edwin John Harris of his journey from Adelaide to Alice Springs with a party led by R.P. Boucaut to bring supplies for the Overland Telegraph Line – it contains much description of the party members and country travelled.

D 8500 (L)

Letter by Captain William Allen to George Fife Angas, April 1836, sounding out the possibility of a whaling industry being established for the new colony.

D 8501 (L)

Circular letter advising Robert Walker, engineer of West Smithfield, London of his imminent embarkation with wife and two children on the *Buffalo*, 1836, and the necessity to pay five pounds for their 2-year-old daughter Ann (Thomas, aged one, travelled free). He had been engaged by the South Australian Company before he left; he died in 1838.

D 8435 (Misc), D 8439 (Misc), D 8441 (Misc)

Six small groups created from papers donated by the Adelaide Women's Liberation Archives collection. They are: Women's Environmental Action Group; 5 MMM-FM Women's Collective; papers of Mary Nettle; papers relating to domestic violence; papers of Mary McLeod; papers relating to Dr Jill Need.

D 8274 (L)

The diary of James Bell on the *Planter* in 1838/1839 is being published by Allen & Unwin, with an Introduction and Epilogue by SLSA librarian Anthony Laube, and a Passenger and Crew list as an Appendix. An advance copy has been given to Anthony, with publication expected to be by the end of 2011.

### *Business records*

BRG 370

Processing of the Hawker business papers for Bungaree Station and other Hawker properties, and additional private papers for the family group PRG 847, is now complete. All series are described online, with lists (embedded in the records as 'Archival items') and linked Word document series lists and box lists where appropriate.

BRG 373

Wilpena Station store day-book 1902-1909, recording goods issued and cost (probably by G.T. Hunt, whose name appears inside front cover). Includes newspaper cuttings about shepherds, pasted in at end of volume.

### *Society records*

SRG 854

Adelaide Rifle Club records (1897-1899), found with the donated Hawker papers. Evidently one of the family, referred to as 'Major Hawker', was a sometime member. They comprise first annual general meeting report (1898), correspondence, including with South Australian Military Forces, roll, rules, target practice score sheets, handicap records for the Galliford Cup trophy, receipts and a 1897 cash statement.

### *Personal records*

PRG 1535

Papers of Mrs Elizabeth Lithgow (1854-1899), covering the Williams, Peachey and Lithgow families. Although found with the Hawker papers, any connection is tenuous. An important collection of papers dealing with personal matters as well as land and property, including 'Constantia' near Houghton. Mrs Lithgow, formerly Peachey, was a daughter and heiress of Thomas Williams of 'The Hermitage' near Houghton.

Neil Thomas

## **The J.D. Somerville Oral History Collection**

OH 969 & OH 970

Both of these recordings were conducted by Rob Linn for the joint National Library of Australia/State Library of South Australia *Eminent Australians* Oral History Program. OH 969 is a three-hour interview with cooking and television personality, Maggie Beer. Currently embargoed, the interview will be available for access via the NLA's website or at SLSA in 2015. OH 970 comprises five hours of interview with emergency medical service specialist and pioneer, Dr Fred Gilligan AO.

OH 980

Irvine Bettison grew up in the Mount Mary/Kapunda region of South Australia. Originally recorded on audiocassette in the 1980s, these 7-hour reminiscences span the mid-1890s to the First World War. Providing a detailed account of life in regional South Australia, Mr Bettison covers topics such as his school days, the importance of water and wells, the birds and other wildlife of the area, and his participation in the war.

OH 982

Elliott Johnston QC of *Red Silk* fame died on 25 August 2011. OH 982 provides a permanent record of Johnston's memorial service, conducted by Peter McCusker. Eulogies/speeches are delivered by Anthony Kerin, Don Sutherland, Lowitja O'Donoghue, Edwin Hodgeman, Kevin Duggan, Mick Doyle, Paul Heywood-Smith and Stewart Johnston. The SLSA is in the process of obtaining release forms for each speaker, so the recording will soon be available.

*Briefly...*

OH 972 – Steve Brock contributed a three-disk interview with well-known South Australian writer/poet, Geoff Goodfellow; OH 979 – Allison Murchie recorded Trevor Klein of Wakefield Press's address to the Kensington & Norwood Historical Society, 'From Manuscript to Book'; OH 973 – At the behest of the National Film and Sound Archive, Denise Schuman interviewed radio personality David Day.

Tonia Eldridge

## **NEW COORDINATOR FOR ARCHIVAL COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT AT THE STATE LIBRARY**

I was recently appointed Coordinator of Archival Collection Development at the State Library, a newly created position that makes me responsible for bringing in the personal, society and business records that document the social, cultural, economic and political history of South Australia. I also manage the non-print material acquired by the Library, including films, video recordings and sound recordings.

My particular interest is in finding records that highlight the experiences of migrant and refugee groups, those on non-Christian religions in South Australia, war experiences, conservation, and the information technology and defence industries. Presently I am working on acquiring photographs of Dr Jane Goodall's visit to Monarto Zoo in 2011, and the memorial service held in Goolwa for Herbie, the explosives detection dog killed by a roadside bomb in Afghanistan in 2010.

We receive many wonderful audio-visual records, some of which we have uploaded onto the State Library's YouTube site. You may be interested in viewing the Jantzen Water Ballet Company performing in the 1930s at the City Baths in Adelaide, now the site of the Festival Theatre, and 'A Day in the Life of a Signaller', a film showing training activities in the 10<sup>th</sup> Battalion Sigs at Woodside Camp in 1941, now the location of Inverbrackie detention centre.

Sue Ward

## **MEGG'S CONFERENCE YEAR**

It is a mantra of the business world that a proportion of one's profits should be ploughed back into one's business for it to grow. Until this year I thought that meant keeping myself up to date with the technological revolution and buying history books. Now I know that conferences, expensive though they can be, are part of the professional historian's business arsenal.

My conference year began in March when I went to Canberra for a national symposium designed to build bridges between museum and teacher educators and create a new history pedagogy for Australia's first

national and compulsory history curriculum. There is an associated web site which includes podcasts of all papers presented, including mine (see [www.canberra.edu.au/faculties/education/teacher-ed/historical\\_learning](http://www.canberra.edu.au/faculties/education/teacher-ed/historical_learning)).

The symposium was the perfect place for me to express personal hopes and fears based on my own experiences teaching high school history and working on the Collaborative Museums Education Project funded by the Regional Museums Grant Support Program, MAGNT. The symposium was also the perfect place to get new ideas. Among my favourites was the suggestion that trainee teachers need to be explicitly taught how to take students on school excursions. One way to do this is for trainees to do practicums in museums. It's a suggestion I have passed on to teacher-training institutions in Alice Springs.

Organiser Phil Roberts' description of how to use digital technologies to assess student work was inspirational. I particularly liked his account of how a group of history students studying the Vietnam War recorded community memories, published them on the web and created digital essays rather than text-based ones. The students who participated in this 'hands on' history project achieved the same educational outcomes as those students who undertook traditional classroom instruction.

And then there was the idea of including school students in every stage of museum exhibition design, starting with object selection and finishing with exhibition testing before the museum opens its public door. High School students do not have to be academic for this project to be a success. It's something I would love to try out.

From Canberra I flew to Bangkok, making the most of my proximity to the coast to head overseas, as those of us who live in single airline towns are wont to do. I spent three months travelling overland to Beijing where I attended a World History Conference entitled 'From the Centre to the Periphery' – the perfect topic for a Centralian, I thought. I didn't present a paper because I wasn't quite sure what 'World History' was.

World History, it turned out, means different things to different people. A French Canadian academic told me it had taken her several years to realise that World History was more than a history of the world from a French-Canadian perspective. An interesting workshop on the biases hidden in time-lines confirmed her view. It also helped me articulate my own beliefs that Australia's first history curriculum is really a coastal rather than a national one.

I'm not sure whether many of the Chinese and American academics who attended the conference would understand the difference. Their papers made me feel as if I was in the middle of an academic cold war as they vied with each other over who had contributed more to civilisation –

Europeans and their American-dwelling descendants or the Chinese. In that content-focussed competition, Australia was clearly on the periphery.

It was, however, a small group of Australian academics who dominated the conference's formal and informal conversational spaces. Until Beijing I had never heard of 'Big History'. By the end of the first day of pre-conference tours I had heard of little else. The brain child of David Christian, a historian from Macquarie University in Sydney, Big History tells the story of the universe from Big Bang to the present (see [www.ted.com/talks/david\\_christian\\_big\\_history.html](http://www.ted.com/talks/david_christian_big_history.html) where he does the whole history in 18 extraordinary minutes!).

The historians at the conference were less enthusiastic about Big History than the chemists, cosmologists and meteorologists who were attending a history conference for the first time. As one of the historians put it, the history of the human race gets two paragraphs at the end of the story – not enough to help anyone understand the origins of the Sino-Japanese War. As an interdisciplinary subject which is actively engaging scientists in discipline history, I think it's great and look forward to seeing what happens with the year 9 course being developed as the world's first 'global' subject, thanks to funding provided by Bill Gates.

Shortly after I got back from China I headed to Adelaide for ACPHA's inaugural conference, something I was really looking forward to, as a mature-age newly emerging professional historian and the only member of PHA (NT) in central Australia. The conference fulfilled all of my expectations and more.

On the personal level I loved talking to those historians with first-hand knowledge of Centralia. I had fun asking them what they thought of 'Bob Stott', the benevolent despot/autocratic dictator of Centralia's early Commonwealth years. It was also encouraging to share some of my theses and have peers affirm the value of still unpublished ideas. There was also a very real sense of collegiate support as more experienced professionals shared some of the practical issues involved in running a small history business and more experienced colleagues offered post-conference support.

The ACPHA President's suggestion that as a profession we need to find our USP – our Unique Selling Point – echoed my own concerns about how to explain to a community used to getting its history for free that paying a professional will get them something more. I'm not sure that I walked away with a precise answer, but I'm glad the conversation has been started. My own small contribution to things has been to start calling myself a professional historian instead of a freelancer. I have also

put ACPHA's web address in my email ID. A greater awareness of the profession's existence should benefit us all.

My final conference was the National Oral History Conference in Melbourne where once again I presented a paper, this time on bereavement by suicide – an oral history project commissioned by the Mental Health Association of Central Australia. The surround-sound speakers did magnificent justice to the audio montage I had created, and I was pleased that I managed to get through the paper without bursting into tears.

My very first workshop, entitled 'Interviewing people on the margins', reminded me of something I had forgotten. People who listen to stories of tragedy and trauma need to protect themselves from the emotional fallout the telling of sad/cruel/uncomfortable tales inevitably generates. I have returned to Centralia emotionally lighter. The OHAA conference which followed so soon after the ACPHA one also facilitated lovely re-connections with many of the professional historians I had only just met.

Four conferences in a year is a lot and there is a risk that information overload may prevent me from properly absorbing all the good ideas I have come across. There is no doubt, though, that I now feel much less professionally isolated than before.

Thanks to everyone who shared their thoughts and to PHA (NT) for making my attendance at ACPHA's conference possible.

Megg Kelham

Alice Springs, October 2011

[meggkel@yahoo.com](mailto:meggkel@yahoo.com)



# **‘BRINGING TOGETHER’ AUSTRALIAN COUNCIL OF PROFESSIONAL HISTORIANS ASSOCIATIONS’ CONFERENCE**

**5–7 August 2011, National Wine Centre, Adelaide**

More than two dozen speakers gave papers at the inaugural National Conference of the Australian Council of Professional Historians Associations, with Sonia Jennings and Drs Ruth Donovan and Susan Marsden setting the scene. Their well-constructed papers outlined the evolution of professional historians’ associations in Australia along different lines from those developed in the United States and United Kingdom. The following session saw speakers present historians in action in dramatic circumstances. Dr Dorothy Wickham had organised a rescue mission during the January 2011 flood at Carisbrook, Victoria, when the local historical society’s custodian became too traumatised to act. Most important among the salvaged records were government school records dating from the 1860s, prompting June Edwards and one or two others to (tactfully) question whether the records should not have been deposited with the Public Record Office in the first instance, rather than a private residence, an issue not addressed by the speaker. Catherine McLennan spoke of her experiences in building relationships with a wary community in the aftermath of Victoria’s 2009 bushfires, and assembling the Victorian bushfires collection while material remained available. As one who lived through the onslaught of Cyclone Tracy as a young police officer, Dr Bill Wilson looked at the need for a measure of detachment in writing historical accounts of natural disasters.

In the session ‘Adding value to the professionals at work’, Pauline Cockerill shared her expertise with digital photography and Stephanie Johnson her ambition of achieving World Heritage status for the Adelaide Hills. Dr Peter Cahalan alluded to his views of history in promoting tourism, while Dr Cathie Clement was one of a number of speakers on the topic of ‘being professional’. She addressed the difficulties of maintaining a reputation for professional integrity, particularly where native title work was concerned, in the face of attempts by other parties to assign the historian to one or another of the ‘history wars’ camps.

Significance assessment is an area in which professional historians have been increasingly picking up work, and Veronica Bullock’s talk nicely complemented the workshops held for us by Geoff Spiers. On the museums front, Dr Karen George and David Smids spoke of their

success in involving the ongoing commitment of old linotype operators in designing the printing museum at Pinnaroo to be attractive to the young.

In one of the earlier sessions, the question of South Australian identity was addressed by Dr Peter Bell, amongst others. Peter spoke on 'The convict myth' which took different forms in South Australia, one holding up the Province as the one untarnished, the other contending that a significant number of desperados infiltrated and menaced the Adelaide Hills. In truth, runaway convicts were hard to find. The convicts who made their way to South Australia tended to be not hardened criminals, but assignees, ticket-of-leave men, pardoned convicts and emancipists, some, like Emanuel Solomon, eminently respectable in the long run. The population of New South Wales still includes a far greater portion of people of convict descent.

In the parallel session, Dr Jeff Nicolas was speaking on Edward Gibbon Wakefield and the political economists behind the South Australia Act of 1834. A goodly number of them were evangelical radicals (including Daniel O'Connell, 'the Liberator'), who were members of the Reform Club and are commemorated in Adelaide Street names.

In one of the following sessions, 'A Province in practice', Peter Moore spoke on the 'fatal letter', Robert Torrens' 1835 instruction from the Colonial Office, according to which South Australia's broad acres were to have been shared with the Aboriginal inhabitants and Aboriginal propriety rights respected where they were found to exist. Sadly, darker forces prevailed. Tom Gara spoke along similar lines in his paper on 'Protectors and Aboriginal rights, 1836-1842'.

One success story was presented by Dr Ann Herraman who looked at the development around Mount Barker between 1839 and 1889 of a relatively prosperous settler society in line with Wakefield concepts of settlement.

Dr Tony Rogers related the mixed fortunes of 'Real people who emigrated in 1839' and Jason Shute the story of Henry Ayres' early career. An intriguing aspect of Jason's account was the discovery, late in his writing of Ayres' biography, of a cache of Henry Ayres' papers. The collection, obviously unknown to Lucy Lockett Ayres when she wrote her brief life, came to light when the present legal firm of Evans & Ayres happened to move office.

Cecile Cutler, a geographer, was taken aback when her paper, 'Sir Archibald Grenfell Price, an almost forgotten North Terrace icon?', was greeted with protestations that Grenfell Price had been far from forgotten or neglected; she is thinking of revising her thesis.

As an example of historical mythmaking, Glenda Couch-Keen examined a family's single-minded promotion of the Herbig tree to eclipse in importance all others used for shelter or as dwelling places by Aboriginal people and Europeans alike.

Louise Bird's rather rushed talk on 'Designing with natives' at Elizabeth and Golden Grove provoked a good deal of discussion, one member of the audience pointing out that, while planting of native trees now held sway, the value of understory plantings was ignored in favour of easy-to-mow landscaping.

In her talk, 'The sunny South', Julie Collins noted that South Australian architects had been writing about adapting architecture to South Australia's climatic conditions in the 1930s. Again, much discussion ensued, many decrying the abandonment of solar principles and loss of architectural styles expressing a South Australian identity. By all accounts, the session in which Dr Christine Garnaut, Alan Hutchings, Alison McDougall and Carol Cosgrove spoke on 'Planning and architecture after Light' was equally fascinating.

Patricia Sumerling gave a lively account of 'Living on the Adelaide Parklands', an illegal tradition to which Council generally took a benign attitude. By contrast, in his excellent plenary session paper, 'The long arm of the law – the 1950s and 1960s decades of shame', Dino Hodge outlined the increasingly draconian legislation pressed for by Commissioners of Police of the time to criminalise every aspect of homosexual behaviour, real or imagined. One's mere presence at a gay party was grounds for conviction under this thinking.

Of course there were numerous competent speakers not mentioned here, Dr Susan Marsden and Beth Robertson to name two, who stuck to History SA's efficient timetable and raised more questions on the interpretation of South Australia's history. Two drawbacks of the conference were, perhaps, the lack of any excursions and the unimaginative catering.

As the ACPHA sessions often ran in tandem with the State History Conference parallel sessions, one had to pick and choose to some extent. There were ACPHA conference sessions on e-books, film, the net, site dressing and much besides. In the concluding session Megg Kelham contrasted public attitudes to historians in Mongolia with those in Central Australia, a most interesting talk, while Peter Donovan gave an eye-opening insight into how professional historians' practices were set up in the States, and threw out some challenges to the audience.

The inaugural ACPHA conference has set a high bar for its successors.

Roger André

**The following report** first appeared in *PHA (WA) Newsletter*, no. 117, September 2011. Thanks to the PHA (WA) and Pamela Statham-Drew for permission to reproduce the article, with minor editing.

The combination of the first national ACPHA conference with the 20th South Australian History Conference proved a resounding success. It was unashamedly ambitious. In celebration of the State's 175th year, 65 papers were presented over three days, often in three streams. The venue was well suited for the purpose – the National Wine Centre (or more correctly conference centre with its several very large rooms) having been taken over by the University of Adelaide and equipped with all necessary technology. People were able to attend any sessions/papers of the ACPHA Conference (5–6 August) and the State History Conference (5–7 August). The full registration fee, excluding the formal dinner, was \$100/\$190/\$270 for 1/2/3 days.

ACPHA ran one of the three streams over two of the days, and the 60 or so delegates had the choice of 21 papers to hear. This stream had been deliberately designed to provide professional development for members, and any members with substantive research papers were urged to give them in the other streams. So there was always something of interest to attend and sometimes it was really difficult to choose – for example a paper on an early South Australian educator in the ACPHA stream was up against Henry Ayers and Migration in one of the competing streams and the contribution of two architects to the development of post-war communities in the other. This wide choice made for noisy breaks as the 200 or so delegates debated which session to attend next.

Our arrival on the Friday precluded attending Dr John Hirst's opening address on South Australia's history, which we heard went very well. We also missed some of the early papers in the ACPHA stream on 'Professional Historians Coming Together', 'Fire, Flood and Storm: historians working through disaster' and 'Adding value to the professional's work'. We did, however, make it to Cathie Clement's paper on 'Fine lines: distinctions between ethical and unethical behaviour in the practice of History', which was subsequently rated one of the best and most stimulating in the series.

On Saturday the ACPHA stream began with a mixed bag of papers gathered under the heading 'Interacting with history', covering printing, heritage assessment and sporting sites, followed after tea by 'Whose history is it?', where a missing speaker led to a call to Western Australia's Bob Reece to fill the gap. These two ACPHA sessions had very heavy competition in the alternative streams. In one, Peter Bell amusingly explored the part that not having convicts had played in SA's history, while in the other Ann Hunter gave a paper on John and William Hutt, which was very well received.

On Saturday afternoon the ACPHA stream was devoted to publishing history and was fully attended. South Australia is fortunate in having a private book producer, Wakefield Press, whose staff have a fervent interest in history. They set up a couple of tables and their books attracted much interest – and sales. Staff from Wakefield Press gave advice on publicity and presentation and discussed the inroads of the e-book. The final session, as the ACPHA conference ended on the Saturday, was devoted to ‘The future for professional historians’, where Alice Springs’ only professional historian, Megg Kelham, gave a very amusing but equally thought-provoking paper on the differences in public attitudes to historians in Mongolia and Australia; she pointed out that whereas Mongolia revered its historians, Australians treat them with very little respect, preferring their history to come from journalists, novelists and film producers! In exploring the reasons for this, Megg looked at the way we tend to downgrade our heroes; that we tell very few ‘good’ stories; our history is very gloom and doom rather than being uplifting. She believed we need a new pedagogy, a more positive outlook. And she stressed that it is essential for kids to do research from an early age, because finding complexities and conflicting facts in their own family histories could teach them more about history than any textbook – something with which we all agreed.

At the conference dinner on Saturday evening we learned that South Australia has a statutory authority responsible for the State’s history, the only State to be so fortunate. History SA, formerly the History Trust of South Australia, has a CEO in Margaret Anderson and twelve full-time staff. They have a budget of around \$4 million and are responsible for running the independent Migration, Maritime and National Motor Museums. They also host a community history website with pages provided for individual historical societies, museums and community groups. On its website are on-line courses in preservation, cataloguing and other collection skills. History SA is able to fund about \$30 000 in small grants for community history projects each year, which they say is a very poor second to WA’s Lotterywest funding. We are the only State lucky enough to have an independent lottery!

In celebration of the 175th and with separate funding, History SA has also created a website called *Bound for South Australia* which, week by week, reveals the lives and fortunes of the migrants who travelled to South Australia in 1836. Thankfully, 1836 had the same days and dates as 2011 which has simplified matters for the presenters, who are nevertheless overwhelmed at times by the weekly publishing deadline. With all its links and photographs of precious artefacts and documents it is a site that has excited students and history buffs alike. See it at <http://boundforsouthaustralia.net.au>.

History SA is quite separate from the History Council of SA and the Historical Society of SA, neither of which receives funds from History SA or has paid staff. The Historical Society appears to be well funded, thanks to some clever financial management in the past, and it brings out an annual journal. The Historical Society is very active and their sections at the conference revealed a wealth of talent and a wide range of interests among their members.

The conference was expensive, about \$250 including dinner, but well worthwhile.

Pamela Statham-Drew, MPHA



## **AUSTRALIAN MINING HISTORY ASSOCIATION ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

**Hahndorf, 12–18 September 2011**

The theme of the Australian Mining History Association's 17<sup>th</sup> conference was 'Australia's earliest mining era', reflecting metal mining undertaken in the Mount Lofty Ranges in the decade from 1841 to 1851, although all phases of mining were covered. Titles of speakers were not given in the program.

The first keynote speaker was Philip Payton, who will be known to those who attended the State History Conference at Kadina in 2009. Here he argued that South Australia's real 'Cornish crucible' was to be found in the Adelaide Hills, where Ross Both also looked at early mining. Greg Drew's talk focused on the accepted Australian Cornish Mining Heritage Site, at Burra and Moonta Mines State Heritage Areas, and Jason Shute presented convincing evidence that the structure known as Burra's 1847 mine store is recognisably South Australia's earliest mine smelting-house.

Patron of the Australian Mining History Association, Geoffrey Blainey, was another keynote speaker to show that he certainly hasn't lost his touch, speaking for a good half-hour on the history of Australian copper mining without recourse to notes.

Cam Schubert, general manager of the Kanmantoo copper mines, proved an effective speaker on the development of Hillgrove Resources copper

project, poised to go into production. We were also brought up-to-date on the Angas Zinc mine at Strathalbyn, and both sites were visited on tour.

Nic Haygarth illustrated the work of mining fields photographer, J.H. Robinson, and archaeologist David Bannear, and took us through the landscape of the Castlemaine Diggings National Heritage Park, where tangible signage is deemed superfluous in this day and age. Charles Fahey examined the involvement of South Australians in the Victorian rushes. Robin McLachlan described the broader perspective of the Klondike goldrush that attracted several hundred Australians, mercilessly fleeced en route, and Sheila Kelly, of America's Mining History Association, gave a fascinating account of Alaska's Treadwell Gold Mine and settlement which dramatically imploded in 1917. Brian Hill was equally engrossing on R.L. Menzies and the Barossa Gold mining fiasco of 1898. Bernie O'Neill and Barry Cooper gave us the latest result of a highly interesting research on pioneering geologist and mineralogist, Johann Menge (1788-1852), Bernie revealing his discovery of a hitherto unknown portrait of Menge.

New Zealand was well represented at the conference, along with all Australian States.

Fair slabs of the conference week were given over to tours, most of them led by an indefatigable Greg Drew. There were tours to Brukunga, Callington, Echunga, Hallet Cove, Kanmantoo, Littlehampton, Strathalbyn and Willunga to see mining plant and old diggings, chimney stacks and engine-houses in various states of repair, along with brickworks and slate quarries.

The entertaining conference dinner was held at the Bird in Hand Winery.

The organisers will have been well pleased with the success of the conference and excursions, conducted for the most part in superb spring weather.

Roger André

## MEMBER PROFILE – JUDY FANDER



Figure 2 – PHA (SA) Member  
Judy Fander

Born during WW2, I lived in Barmera and later Adelaide. In the 1950s at Adelaide Girls High School in Grote Street I had a privileged education. On the staff were a group of remarkable women educators, enthusiasts all and rigorous in their approach to learning. Four years at Adelaide Teachers College and a History and French degree later, I went teaching in Adelaide secondary schools, working out my bond.

I met my first husband, a PhD student from Sydney, at a Student Christian Movement Camp. We had two children. One of my major interests has been singing, and it was later when I was a member of the Adelaide Chorus that I met my second husband, a tenor. I fell in love with his voice almost instantly. The rest followed. We have been married for twenty-one happy years. I acquired a stepdaughter and son-in-law, and soon,

two step-grandsons who all live in Adelaide. My own two daughters, their partners, and one grandson, live in inner Melbourne.

During my teaching career, like so many, I taught whatever I was asked to teach; whatever was needed by the school at the time – English, History, French, Social Studies, Career Education, and Maths. I remember my History classes, because they were so few. In the late seventies, I went into Special Education, staying in this field for ten years. A single parent, I mostly worked part-time. Then I trained as a Teacher Librarian at Magill Campus. Until retirement, I was a teacher-librarian in Education Department Schools.

After my retirement I began work on the biography of my husband, Hans Fander, self-published in 2007 as *The Mineral Detective*. He is a geologist who for thirty years ran Central Mineralogical Services, which provided services to the Mining industry. I spent many happy hours hearing the stories, publishable and unpublishable, about this industry, tales of fraud and greed, friendship and intrigue. Since my first husband was a Chinese Australian, and my children Eurasian, I was very interested in Hans's account of his own upbringing in China, from 1937 to 1946.

I am a volunteer in the Archives of the State Library and belong to the Writers Centre and the Kensington/Norwood Writers Group, which regularly publishes the work of its members. My native garden gives me great pleasure. I enjoy bird-watching, having been on birding trips this year to the Northern Territory and Western Australia.

My current history project is another biography, this time of Lionel Carley Egremont Gee (1854-1936). Lionel Gee was born in Adelaide just eighteen years after the arrival of the first European settlers in South Australia. Entering the Civil Service in 1870 as a survey cadet, he retired in 1924. He made a lasting contribution to the mining industry of the State as Chief Registrar and Recorder for the Department of Mines 1912 to 1924 and editor of books and pamphlets on mining and mining law which were essential tools for prospectors, land-owners, geologists, metallurgists and investors. The 1908 government publication *Record of the Mines of South Australia* is still a useful reference. In retirement, he wrote a book of reminiscences, and contributed articles to Adelaide newspapers, many about South Australia's mining past.

Judy Fander

## **McDOUALL STUART CONTINENTAL CROSSING – 150<sup>th</sup> CELEBRATIONS IN 2012**

PHA (NT) Treasurer, Dr Bev Phelts, is busy co-ordinating the forthcoming celebrations of the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of John McDouall Stuart and his party reaching the northern sea. The Northern Territory Government and all Darwin history/heritage organisations are keen to be involved.

The John McDouall Stuart Society (Adelaide) and representatives from the Federation of Australian Historical Societies (Canberra) will also be participating. The public is welcome to attend these events. Contact Bev Phelts on mobile 0417 868 827.

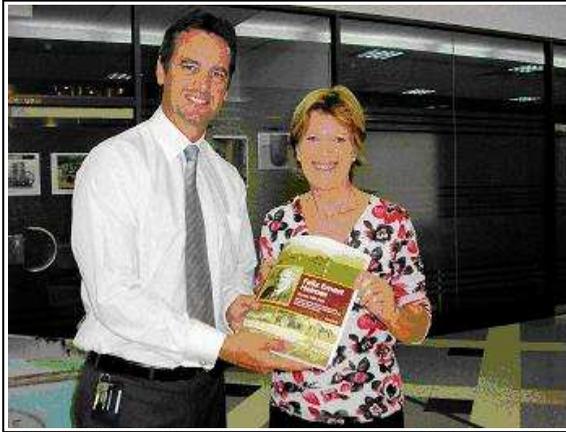
## 2012 Draft Program

Date	Time	Event
Tuesday 24 July	Full day Depart 6-7am	Day trip to Pt Stuart to mark the day and time that Stuart arrived (11am). Re-enactment of flag raising and speeches will accompany champagne toasts.
Wednesday 25 July	10am	Darwin City Council commemorative event in Raintree Park, the Mall, around the statue of Stuart. The event will include a range of speakers and re-enactments. Morning tea will be provided for the Public.
Wednesday 25 July	6pm	Dinner cruise on Darwin Harbour in an old pearling lugger. Cost p/p approx \$70. Drinks extra.
Thursday 26 July	5pm	At Parliament House sunset drinks and nibbles in conjunction with an art exhibition highlighting Stephen King's sketches.
Other activities		The Northern Territory Library and Museum and Art Gallery will be mounting displays. The National Trust will hold a talk on Stuart's achievements.

## **LAUNCH OF *FELIX ERNEST HOLMES:* *DARWIN 1890-1930***

Subtitled *Racehorse owner, Pearler, Agriculturalist, Pastoralist, Butcher, Baker, Icemaker; and the first to switch on Darwin*, this new book by Bev Phelts was launched in the Darwin Plaza Building on 31 May 2011 by Robert Knight MLA, Minister for Essential Services.

Felix Holmes is of Holmes Jungle fame and gives his name to 'Holmes Corner' flanked by Smith, Knuckey and Mitchell Streets. From this site, he sold ice, cordials, frozen foods, meat and bread and produced electricity. Holmes also owned a fleet of pearling luggers, a share of the Don Picture Theatre, an awesome number of landholdings (32 lots in the Darwin CBD alone) and, lastly, a stable of 24 racehorses that raced in both Darwin and Sydney.



*Figure 3 – Minister Robert Knight and Dr Bev Phelts at the launch of her book (courtesy Bev Phelts)*

The Minister and Bev also unveiled two plaques commemorating Felix Holmes and the Darwin Plaza Building as the site of Darwin’s first public ‘power station’.



*Figure 4 – The Minister and Bev with the unveiled plaques (courtesy Bev Phelts)*

The Power Water Corporation organised the plaques and provided a wonderful display of Holmes’s engine-parts and photographs dating back to the Holmes era.

Bev Phelts

# FIELD TRIP TO VICTORIA RIVER DOWNS STATION

In July 2011, PHA (NT) member Dr Brian Reid organised and led the NT Historical Society's Annual field trip, on this occasion to Victoria River Downs Station.

Victoria River Downs Station was first established in 1880 by Charles Fisher and Maurice Lyons. The original cattle, 20,000 of them, were overlanded by Nat Buchanan in 1881 from Wilmot. Since then, the station has had several owners including Goldsbrough Mort & Company, Sidney Kidman and Bovril Australian Estates Ltd. The current owner is Janet Holmes à Court.



*Figure 5 – Dashwood Crossing at the Victoria River, with Lyn and Brian Reid's 4WD coming through. This is where 'The Fizzer' drowned while delivering mail to the station (courtesy Bev Phelts)*

During the early years, the Station received renowned visitors such as Sir George Le Hunte, Mick Madrill, who initiated the first mail run, and Harry Peckham – 'The Fizzer' from the book *We of the Never Never*. The station is 12,359 square kilometres in size, carries 10,000 cattle and is 730km south west of Darwin.

It can boast of its historical past, with its old buildings dating back to WW2 and beyond. The Station had previously operated a hospital/nursing home (one of the earliest Australian Inland Mission Hospitals), a school, medical clinic, a post office with its very own postcode, a supply store, stables, a cemetery (still in use) and ownership of two WW2 bomb shelters.



*Figure 6 – VRD post office which has its own post code 0852  
(courtesy Bev Phelts)*

The infrastructure of the Station is very impressive, with its helicopter pad (we counted four helicopters at one time), a light aircraft landing strip, power station and a weather station.



*Figure 7 – The cemetery at Victoria River Downs Station  
(courtesy Bev Phelts)*

Historical Society members were the guests for the weekend of the managers, Julie and Russell Richter. Russell was away and Julie, who was suffering from a broken arm and juggling two young children, remarkably managed to spend a morning with us showing us around.



*Figure 8 – Inside the old hospital. Bev Phelts, Brian Reid & and Victoria River Downs Station Manager, Julie Richter (courtesy Bev Phelts)*

It was good to arrive home safe, have a much needed shower after rolling around in red dust for four days.

Bev Phelts

## **PROFESSIONAL HISTORIANS ASSOCIATION (SA) INC.**

### **Statement by Committee**

The attached financial statements of the Professional Historians Association (SA) Inc. for the year ended 30<sup>th</sup> June 2011 are, in our opinion, properly drawn up:

- (i) so as to present fairly the financial position and the state of affairs of the Organization at 30<sup>th</sup> June 2011 and the results of its operations for the period then ended;
- (ii) in accordance with the provision of the Constitution, and
- (iii) in accordance with applicable accounting standards as disclosed.

At the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Professional Historians Association (SA) Inc. will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

Dated at Adelaide this 9<sup>th</sup> day of August 2011

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Committee.

# **INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT**

## **To the members of the Professional Historians Association (SA) Inc.**

### *Scope*

We have audited the attached special purpose financial report comprising the Statement of Financial Position, Statement of Financial Performance, and Notes to the Financial Statements, of the Association for the period ended 30<sup>th</sup> June 2011. The Professional Historians Association (SA) Inc.'s Committee of Management is responsible for the financial report and have determined that the accounting policies used are consistent with the financial reporting requirements of the organisation's constitution and are appropriate to meet the needs of the members. We have conducted an independent audit of the financial report in order to express an opinion on it to the members of the Professional Historians Association (SA) Inc. No opinion is expressed as to whether the accounting policies used, and described in note 1, are appropriate to the needs of the members.

The financial report has been prepared for distribution to members for the purpose of fulfilling the Committee of Management's financial reporting requirements under the constitution. We disclaim any assumption of responsibility for any reliance on this report or on the financial report to which it relates to any person other than the members, or for any purpose other than that for which it was prepared.

Our audit has been conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards. Our procedures included examination, on a test basis, of evidence supporting the amounts and other disclosures in the financial report and the evaluation of significant accounting estimates. These procedures have been undertaken to form an opinion as to whether, in all material respects, the financial report is presented fairly in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements. (These policies do not require the application of all Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements in Australia.)

The audit opinion expressed in this report has been formed on the above basis.

### *Audit Opinion*

In our opinion, the financial report presents fairly, in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements, the financial position of the Professional Historians Association (SA) Inc as at 30<sup>th</sup> June 2011 and its financial performance for the year then ended.

Dated 25<sup>th</sup> July 2011

Harradine & Norris Green

*Chartered Accountants*

218 Glen Osmond Road, Fullarton, SA, 5063.

# **PROFESSIONAL HISTORIANS ASSOCIATION (SA) INC.**

## **Notes to the Accounts**

For the year ended 30<sup>th</sup> June 2011

### **Summary of Accounting Policies**

#### *Financial Reporting Framework*

The Professional Historians Association (SA) Inc. is not a reporting entity because, in the opinion of the Committee of Management, there are unlikely to exist users of the financial report who are unable to command the preparation of reports tailored so as to satisfy specifically all of their information needs. Accordingly, this 'special purpose financial report' has been prepared to satisfy the reporting requirements under the Constitution. The accounting policies used in the preparation of this report are consistent with the financial reporting requirements of the Constitution and with previous years, and are, in the opinion of the Committee of Management, appropriate to meet the needs of members.

The financial report has been prepared on the basis of historical cost and, except where stated, does not take into account changing money values or current valuations of non-current assets. Cost is based on the fair values of the consideration given in exchange for assets.

#### *Significant accounting policies*

The following significant accounting policies have been adopted in the preparation and presentation of the financial report:

The Statement of Financial Performance has not been prepared on an accrual basis of accounting in order to match the income receivable with expense commitments for the period. Accordingly, the statement is a statement of receipts and payments during the year.

# PROFESSIONAL HISTORIANS ASSOCIATION (SA) INC.

## Statement of Financial Performance

Year ended 30<sup>th</sup> June 2011

	<b>2011</b>	<b>2010</b>
<b>REVENUE FROM ORDINARY ACTIVITIES</b>		
Subscriptions	3,380.00	3,190.00
Newsletter Subscriptions	-	35.00
Directory Fees	25.00	50.00
Annual Dinner	990.00	1,305.00
Bank Interest	636.27	638.34
Miscellaneous Income	542.00	-
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>5,573.27</b>	<b>5,218.34</b>
<b>EXPENSES FROM ORDINARY ACTIVITIES</b>		
Audit Fees	165.00	198.00
Annual Dinner and Refreshments	939.00	1,569.00
Postage and Stationery	328.05	316.35
Honorarium	-	200.00
Miscellaneous Expenses	217.00	148.78
Newsletter Expenses	757.20	835.74
Subscription – ACPHA	-	900.00
Subscription – History Council	100.00	100.00
Website Expenses	1,610.27	2,660.00
Yellow Pages Directory	119.00	174.70
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>4,235.52</b>	<b>7,102.57</b>
<b>NET SURPLUS/(LOSS)</b>	<b>1,337.75</b>	<b>(1,884.23)</b>

## Statement of Financial Position

As at 30<sup>th</sup> June 2011

	<b>2011</b>	<b>2010</b>
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>		
BankSA Society Cheque Account	1,961.47	1,245.91
Adelaide Bank Term Deposit	12,785.65	12,170.51
Petty Cash	22.20	15.15
<b>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</b>	<b>14,769.32</b>	<b>13,431.57</b>
<b>MEMBERS FUNDS</b>		
Retained Earnings	13,431.57	15,315.80
Net Surplus/(Loss)	1,337.75	(1,884.23)
<b>TOTAL MEMBERS FUNDS</b>	<b>14,769.32</b>	<b>13,431.57</b>

# **CODE OF ETHICS AND PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS FOR PROFESSIONAL HISTORIANS IN AUSTRALIA**

## **1. PREAMBLE**

The Code has been formulated to embrace the practice of all members of Professional Historians Associations in Australia. The Code is intended to consolidate high standards of professionalism, integrity and scholarship. It provides standards by which historians may measure the propriety of their conduct in their relationships with colleagues and the profession; their relationship with clients; and their responsibilities to the community. Adherence to the Code is a condition of membership of all Member Associations of the Australian Council of Professional Historians Associations (ACPHA).

## **2. GENERAL CONDUCT**

- 2.1 Members are obliged to accept the standards, endorsed by the Australian Council of Professional Historians Associations, and to accept the self imposed disciplines of their profession.
- 2.2 In their professional role, members should at all times be courteous and considerate to others.
- 2.3 Members are entitled to expect that their personal choice of style, approach, evaluation of evidence and interpretation will be respected by their colleagues, and that any grounds for disagreement with their conclusions will be fairly stated.
- 2.4 Members should not publicly question the integrity or competence of their colleagues. Complaints of this kind should be directed to the Executive of their Professional Historians Association.
- 2.5 Members who make statements and recommendations, express opinions and give evidence, should do so objectively and truthfully, and on the basis of adequate research.
- 2.6 Members should take care to know of, and comply with, all legal requirements affecting their work.

## **3. RELATIONSHIPS WITH COLLEAGUES AND THE PROFESSION**

- 3.1 Members are expected to follow scholarly practice, including the acknowledgment of the work, ideas and methods of others. ACPHA Code of Ethics and Professional Standards 2
- 3.2 Members should, whenever appropriate, assist in the work and professional development of colleagues and students.
- 3.3 Members should keep themselves informed of developments within their profession and be committed to continuing their professional development.
- 3.4 Members should avoid discrediting their profession by attempting work beyond their level of competence
- 3.5 Members should avoid placing themselves under an obligation to any person or organisation if so doing could undermine their professional integrity.
- 3.6 Members should acknowledge help from informants. They should respect an informant's request for privacy, except where compulsion of law requires disclosure.

#### **4. RELATIONSHIPS WITH CLIENTS**

- 4.1 Members should carefully plan and adhere to a firm and achievable date for the completion of a project.
- 4.2 Members should not misrepresent the requirements, findings, problems or possible consequences of a project.
- 4.3 If a conflict of interest between a member and client becomes apparent, it should immediately be disclosed to the client.
- 4.4 Members should seek and receive appropriate fees for their services.
- 4.5 When undertaking a commission, members should abide by the agreed fee, conditions and timing of payment, unless the contract has been re-negotiated.
- 4.6 Members should inform clients immediately, and in writing, of any unforeseen circumstances which may require renegotiation of the contract.
- 4.7 Members should not accept compensation, financial or otherwise, from more than one party for services on the same project, unless the circumstances are fully disclosed and agreed to by all interested parties.
- 4.8 Financial arrangements with clients should always be restricted to matters concerning professional fees, ie. work should not be done in exchange for services.
- 4.9 Members should advise the client when a project requires the expertise of other professional disciplines and, if possible, recommend a contact.
- 4.10 Members must not use confidential information to the advantage or disadvantage of the client, nor disclose such information except where required by law.

#### **5 RESPONSIBILITIES TO THE COMMUNITY**

- 5.1 In their professional role, members are responsible both to those employing them and to the wider community. Any conflict between the client's interests and that of the community should be immediately brought to the attention of the client and every effort should be made to resolve it. ACPHA Code of Ethics and Professional Standards 3
- 5.2 Members must not suppress, distort or misuse evidence that they consider relevant to their work.
- 5.3 Members should respect the historical resources and material available to them with a view to their conservation as well as immediate use. Members should encourage the gift, loan or copying of source material to be held in the appropriate public repository.

#### **BREACHES TO THE CODE OF ETHICS AND PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS FOR PROFESSIONAL HISTORIANS IN AUSTRALIA**

If a member is alleged to have acted unethically or unfairly, the member's PHA will decide, after making appropriate inquiries, whether action should be taken against the member. The PHA may, at its discretion, seek advice on such matters from ACPHA.

ACPHA: [www.historians.org.au](http://www.historians.org.au)