



100th Birthday BOOKSEARCH

To mark the National Library of Australia's 100th Anniversary, the Library is conducting a 100th Birthday BookSearch, in association with *The Australian*, to identify the whereabouts of key items not yet held in the Library's Collection.

Every month between now and December, we'll identify some items on our desiderata list. If you know where one of these items is, you can help us by buying the item if it is for sale, donating it if the item is in private hands, or simply letting us know of its whereabouts.

Reg Alder (b.1917)
*Olympic Village,
Melbourne 1956*
silver gelatin photograph;
25.2 x 20.2 cm
Pictorial Collection PIC P633

This month, Linda Groom searches for items not yet in our Pictorial Collection.



If you have photographs of any of the following events we would love to hear from you:

Gold medallists of 1956 Melbourne Olympics—Athletics

Crocker, Norma	Cuthbert, Betty
Mellor, Fleur	Strickland, Shirley

Gold medallists of 1956 Melbourne Olympics—Cycling

Browne, Ian	Marchant, Tony
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Gold medallists of 1956 Melbourne Olympics—Swimming

Crapp, Lorraine	Devitt, John
Fraser, Dawn	Henricks, Jon
Leech, Faith	Morgan, Sandra
O'Halloran, Kevin	Rose, Murray
Theile, David	

CHASING AUSTRALIA'S SPEEDY OLYMPIANS

Photographs of former Australian Olympians have proved a difficult target for the Library's Pictorial Section. The 1956 Olympics in Melbourne, in particular, is a topic that keeps eluding our breathless and well-meaning pursuit. We have not performed too badly with other aspects of Australian sport and can supply researchers with hundreds of portraits of cricketers, dozens of well-known race horses, and photographs of sporting events that range from suburban lacrosse matches to wood chopping at Murwillumbah. But our performance in the Olympics remains well short of medal standard.

Although we scour photographic auction catalogues and try to keep in contact with photographers who may have attended the 1956 Olympics, we have only been able to find a few photographs. One is of the 1956 Athletes' village (pictured) by Reg Alder. Though it is a wonderful record of the simple standard of accommodation that was then considered suitable for Olympians, the photograph is lonely. What did the athletes who lived in these huts look like? We would love them to move out of your attic, and into the National Library, before we lose the race against time.

Can you help? Then please contact Jennifer Underwood, Director Communications & Marketing on (02) 6262 1252 or email booksearch@nla.gov.au

LINDA GROOM, Pictorial Librarian