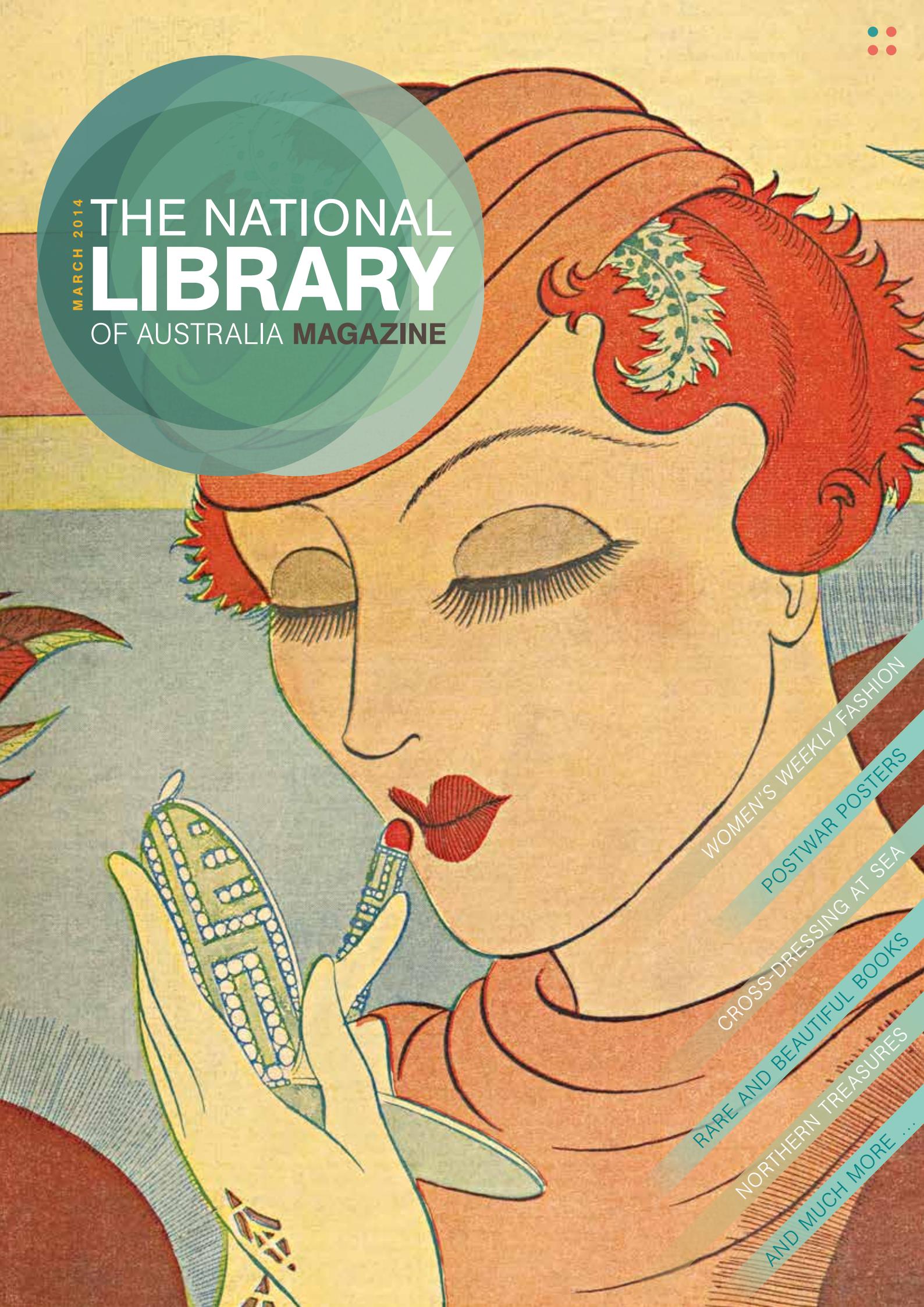


MARCH 2014

THE NATIONAL LIBRARY OF AUSTRALIA MAGAZINE



WOMEN'S WEEKLY FASHION
POSTWAR POSTERS
CROSS-DRESSING AT SEA
RARE AND BEAUTIFUL BOOKS
NORTHERN TREASURES
AND MUCH MORE ...



Abel Tasman

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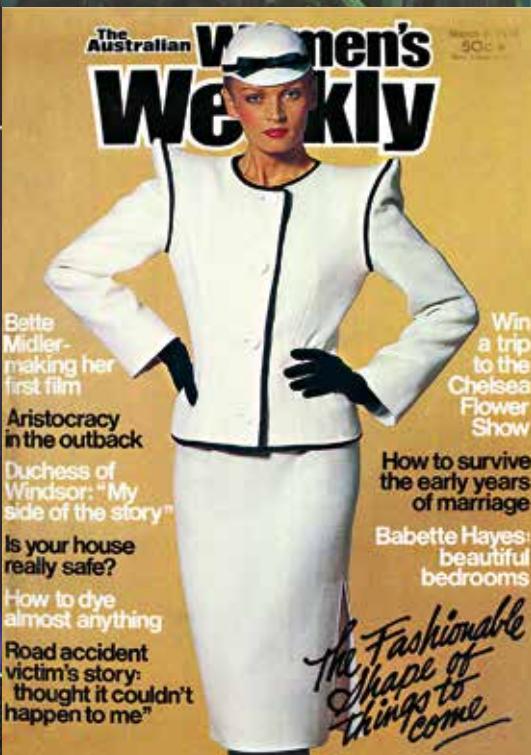
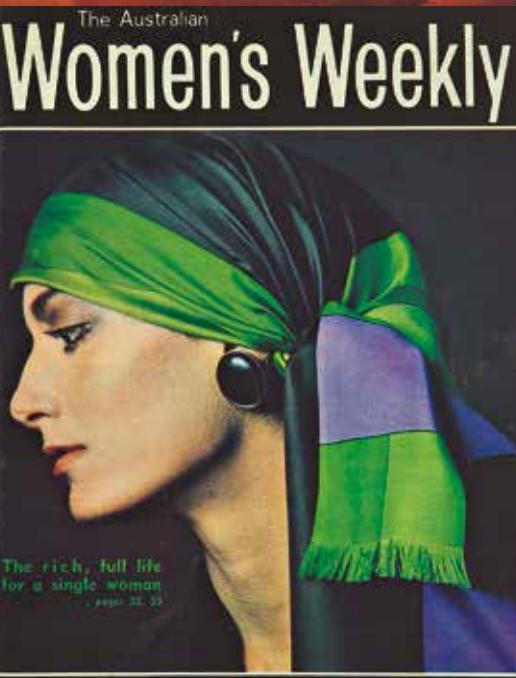
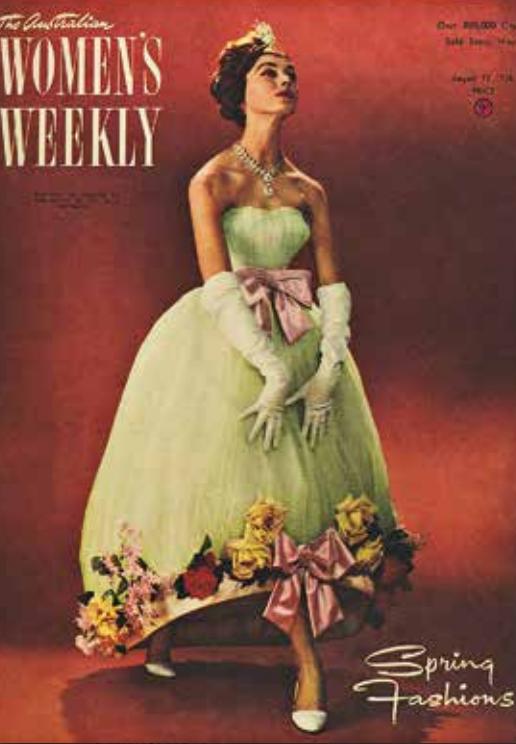
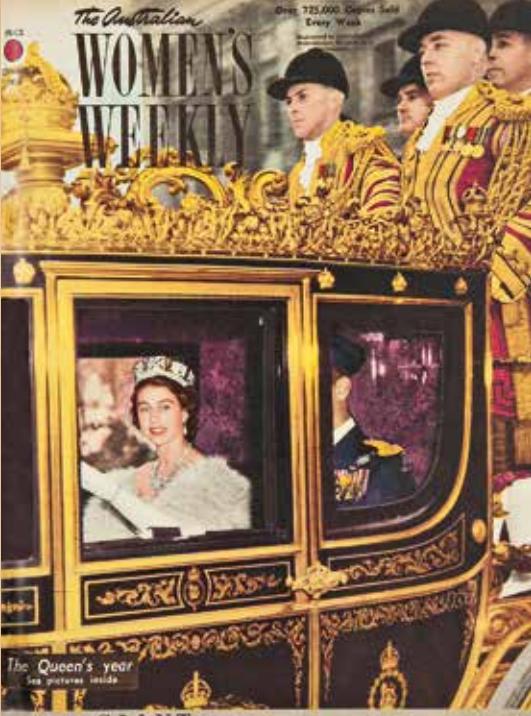
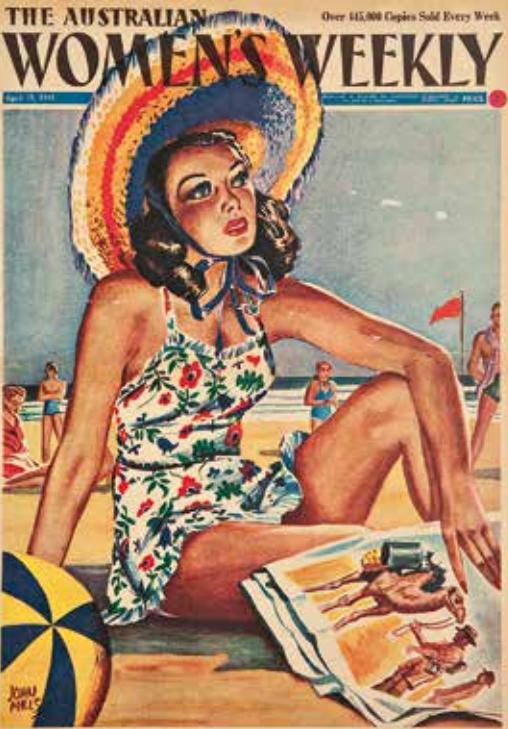
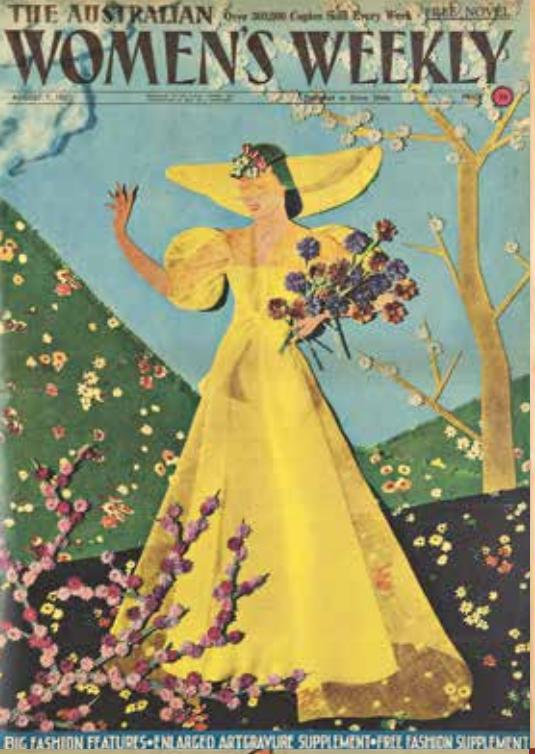
Kerry White writes about a woman who had more adventures in Australia than a fictional heroine



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FINDING RELIGION IN THE NATIONAL LIBRARY

Tom Campbell explores religion in the Library's collections



SLEEVELESS KNITS TO WEAR WITH PANTS, GAUCHOS, and MIDIS
16-page lift-out, FRUIT COOK BOOK to use ALL THE YEAR
PARIS REVIVES FASHIONS (AND MAKE-UP) OF THE 'FORTIES

FIFTY YEARS OF

Fashion

THE AUSTRALIAN WOMEN'S WEEKLY

DEBORAH THOMAS LEAFS THROUGH THE PAGES OF A MUCH-LOVED MAGAZINE

THE AUSTRALIAN WOMEN'S WEEKLY IS A mirror of our times. For over eight decades, it has informed and influenced the way Australian women dress, style their hair, cook, and look after their families, their health and their children. In 2009, as a gift to the nation, the National Library digitised the first 50 years of *The Australian Women's Weekly*. Through the online portal Trove, the Library has expanded and improved public access to the magazine, enabling people to use *The Weekly* as an archive of information about life between 1933 and 1982 from an Australian perspective. A journey through the back issues of *The Australian Women's Weekly* gives us an insight into the evolving history of Australian and international style, its content reflecting the social changes that have influenced the way Australian women live and dress.

When Frank Packer started *The Weekly* in 1933, he set out to create a magazine that presented everyday issues for women as 'news'. The magazine was revolutionary in that it expanded the small and brief 'women's sections' previously found in newspapers and, in combination with current affairs, created the first comprehensive news and lifestyle publication for women. In the words of the first editor, George Warnecke:

Give it an unswerving Australian outlook ... Above all, whether the journalists are writing about fashion, cookery, baby care or diet, there has to be an element of news in what they write.

Since then, *The Australian Women's Weekly* has been at the forefront of fashion and current affairs. Some major events covered by *The Weekly* include: the building of the Sydney Opera House; the Second World War; the moon landing; the assassination of John F. Kennedy; the coronation of Queen Elizabeth II; The Beatles' Australian tour; the disappearance of Harold Holt; the tragic and untimely death of Diana, Princess of Wales; the terrorist attacks in New York and Bali; and, more recently, the election of our first female Prime Minister.

The Weekly has also featured the ever-changing trends of twentieth-century style. From the expensive, socialite-modelled European couture of the 1930s to wartime make-do styles, from the alluring New Look of the 1950s to the androgyny of the 1960s and the freewheeling hippie chic of the 1970s, *The Australian Women's Weekly* has chronicled the development of mainstream Australian fashion. It has also included coverage on



ALL IMAGES IN THIS ARTICLE
covers of *The Australian Women's Weekly* 1933–1979
(Sydney: Australian Consolidated Press)
Newspapers Collection
Courtesy Bauer Media

ABOVE
25 August 1971 (detail)
nla.gov.au/nla.news-page4897958

OPPOSITE
TOP ROW, FROM LEFT
7 August 1937
nla.gov.au/nla.news-page4616067

19 April 1941
nla.gov.au/nla.news-page4717859

31 December 1952
nla.gov.au/nla.news-page4387894

MIDDLE ROW, FROM LEFT
11 December 1948
nla.gov.au/nla.news-page4783387

13 August 1958
nla.gov.au/nla.news-page4823495

6 June 1942
nla.gov.au/nla.news-page4722378

BOTTOM ROW, FROM LEFT
6 January 1954
nla.gov.au/nla.news-page4814477

19 May 1971
nla.gov.au/nla.news-page4888181

7 March 1979
nla.gov.au/nla.news-page4876384

changing trends in make-up and hair, from austere wartime styles to the experimental make-up of the 1960s and 1970s.

The first issue of *The Australian Women's Weekly* was published in June 1933 and consisted of a 44-page, black-and-white tabloid newspaper, costing two pence. Its visionary mix of high production values and accessible price ensured that, for its first half-century, the magazine maintained its position as the highest-selling magazine, per capita, in the world.

Notably, the first issue reflected the current political agenda for women, with the front page featuring the headline 'Equal Social Rights for Sexes'. This

theme has continued throughout the life of the magazine, though some decades championed equal rights and the feminist movement more than others—depending on the political mood of the times and the editor's personal proclivity. Launched in the middle of the Depression, the magazine gave its readers a sense of optimism and some welcome escapism, and sales flourished. Though budgets were strained, by 1939 the circulation stood at an extraordinary 400,000 copies every week.

During the Second World War, the magazine provided a sense of comfort and familiarity for many Australians, giving readers a female perspective on the war, and information on Australian troops abroad. The magazine's senior writer, Adele Shelton-Smith, was Australia's first accredited female war correspondent, travelling to Malaya and other sites of conflict, while editors

Dorothy Drain and Alice Jackson also made forays overseas to report back about Australia's progress on the front lines. *The Weekly* celebrated women's changing roles as they took to the factories to fill the jobs that men had vacated



when they had enlisted to fight for the allied nations.

While the end of the war saw women once again relegated to the home, and to the centre of the nuclear family, the 1950s saw a new era for the magazine. Under editor Esmé Fenston, it began utilising state-of-the-art colour printing presses.

During the 1960s, the issue of higher education for women was covered extensively by *The Australian Women's Weekly*, as was the guilt working mothers felt about no longer being at home around the clock. *The Weekly* also turned an eye towards the wider world and momentous changes around that time, such as the arrival of the all-important contraceptive pill.

The Weekly could not ignore the influence of the growing women's liberation movement during the 1970s, with staff writer and resident feminist, Kay Keavney, securing an interview with Germaine Greer. It also boldly included articles on both traditional homemaking and women's liberation, and was the first magazine in Australia to publish stories about the sexual revolution. This was seen as a turning point, both for Australian women and for the magazine, as it was the first time that a populist publication had run features covering controversial and politically weighted topics. It was also during this decade, in 1975, that Ita Buttrose became editor; at the age of 33, she was the youngest in the magazine's history.

During the 1980s, Kerry Packer (who took over the business from his father) decided that, after half a century of production, *The*

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT
10 June 1933
nla.gov.au/nla.news-page4602692

5 February 1949 (detail)
nla.gov.au/nla.news-page44781459

1 May 1968 (detail)
nla.gov.au/nla.news-page4893663

OPPOSITE
7 February 1968 (detail)
nla.gov.au/nla.news-page4978922



Australian Women's Weekly was to become a monthly publication. Despite the incongruity of the name, the transition went smoothly, and the magazine became glossier. In August 1981, editor Dawn Swain oversaw the coverage of the marriage of Charles and Diana, and the bumper special issue sold out in a matter of hours. To this day, royals remain popular: the marriage of Tasmanian-born Mary Donaldson to Prince Frederik of Denmark in 2004 broke sales records, only to be surpassed in 2011 by the marriage of another commoner, Catherine Middleton, to Prince William.

Modern-day royals continue to intrigue and fascinate *The Weekly's* readers. They also buy the magazine for the news and exclusive personal stories, as well as for the staples of fashion, beauty, health, home and food. While much about the magazine has changed, the important issues remain the same.

The Australian Women's Weekly celebrates, and is an arbiter of, Australian fashion, and is an important influence on the lifestyles of Australian readers. Chronicling the development of the nation's style, the magazine's success is due, in part, to its ability to continually reflect the changing face of Australia and to express what is most relevant to Australian women at any particular time. Today, the magazine continues to attract around two million readers every issue, and remains as it has done for eight decades: the number one magazine on the newsstands and, most importantly, in the hearts and minds of all Australians.

The author would like to acknowledge Denis O'Brien's *The Weekly: A Lively and Nostalgic Celebration of Australia through 50 Years of Its Most Popular Magazine* as a valuable source of information about the magazine's early years.

DEBORAH THOMAS was Editor-in-Chief of *The Australian Women's Weekly* from 1999 to 2008. She is the author, with Kirstie Clements, of *The Australian Women's Weekly Fashion: The First 50 Years*, published by NLA Publishing



VERS L'ARMÉE NOUVELLE



EXPOSITION
FFA

M. Pineau
44

PALAIS BERLITZ OUVERTURE 9 FÉVRIER

EDITION PUBLICITÉ E.A.DAUPHIN 65 Rue de la VICTOIRE PARIS - TRI 4888

AN ARCHIVE OF FREEDOM

THE LIBRARY'S COLLECTION OF FRENCH BROADSIDES PROVIDES AN INTRIGUING WINDOW ONTO POST-OCCUPATION FRANCE, AS COLIN NETTELBECK EXPLAINS

In 1967, THE NATIONAL LIBRARY MADE A purchase that, from today's perspective, looks like an inspired choice and a considerable bargain. For US\$800, the Library acquired, from Kraus Periodicals in New York, a collection of hundreds of documents relating to the French experience of the Second World War.

The identity of the person who originally compiled this material is a mystery. We can, however, be grateful for the judgement that assembled a miscellany that is unusually comprehensive in its representation of the period's ambiguities and complexities: the collapse and defeat of the French army; the humiliations and oppressions deriving from Nazi occupation and the Vichy State (including the persecution and deportation of Jews, and savage reprisals against civilians); the various forms of collaboration and resistance; the difficulties of liberation, including the attempts to purge France of those deemed to have betrayed it. There are essays, social and political commentaries, novels, poems, newspapers, periodicals, pamphlets, posters, broadsides, flybills. There is a wealth of illustrative material, from photographs to cartoons.

We can also be thankful for the system through which the Library was able to maintain a Liaison Officer in New York at that time—in this instance, John Vaughan—whose duties included scouting, selecting and negotiating the purchase of books and collections that would enrich and broaden our national patrimony through an openness to the worlds beyond our shores. As Australians, we can be proud to be the custodians of such a repository.

In 2013, the Library gave special attention to around 100 broadsides from

this Second World War collection, repairing them where necessary, providing individual detailed cataloguing, and housing them in a special 'map-style' cabinet appropriate to their (usually very large) size. This will appreciably facilitate access. The works have also been placed in mylar plastic pockets as a conservation measure.

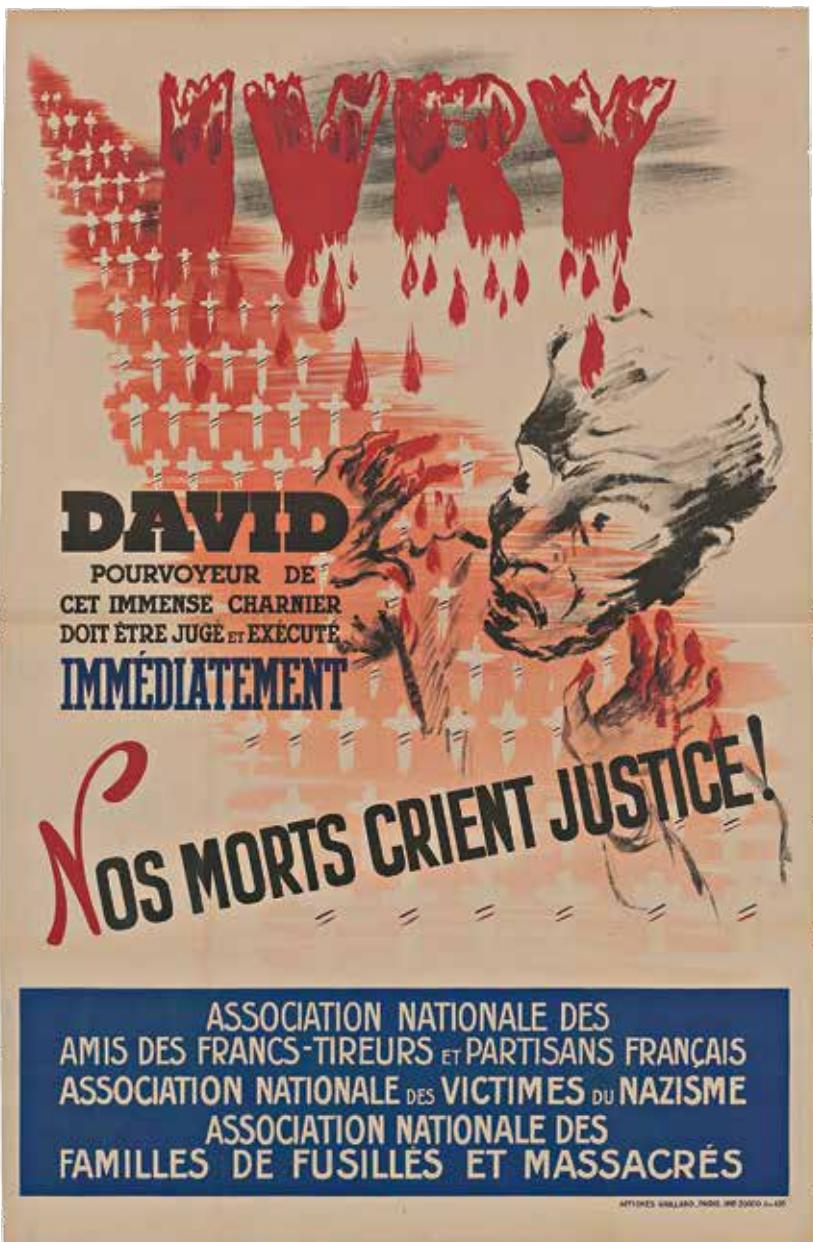
The broadside collection is of great historical interest, covering, essentially, the period from the liberation of Paris in August 1944 to Hitler's final defeat in May 1945. As France faced the tasks of rebuilding its economy, its army, the bases of its civil society, its communications networks and, perhaps above all, its self-respect, this was an extremely fraught time. In fact, such were the multiple entanglements that it was more than half a century before historical accounts of the war attained any real consensus. Even today, the Second World War is a leading cause of contention for the French, whose memory of the Occupation years has not always found resonance in the histories which have since been constructed. The posters, in their time, served several different purposes. Some were calls to meetings or announcements of services, including fundraising entertainments or balls. Others were exhortations to political commitment or patriotic action. As a collection, with the immediacy, urgency and passionate language that characterise the genre, they offer particularly vital and dramatic insights into just how much was at stake for the French population in those troubled months, and why so many of the issues which concerned them then have remained a source of conflict.

Several key thematic strands run through the collection. The continuing pursuit of the war, after the liberation of Paris, is



OPPOSITE
Vers l'Armée Nouvelle:
Exposition F.F.i Palais Berlitz
Ouverture 9 Février (Towards
the New Army: The F.F.i.
Exhibition at the Palais Berlitz
Opens 9 February)
poster 11 in Collection of
French Broadsides Relating to
World War II and Liberation of
France
(France: c. 1945)
Newspapers Collection
nla.gov.au/nla.cat-vn159497

ABOVE
Soirée du Souvenir: Au Profit des Familles des Morts et Déportés de la Résistance P.T.T.
(An Evening of Remembrance:
In Aid of the Families of the
Dead and Deported of the
P.T.T. Resistance)
poster 9 in Collection of French
Broadsides Relating to World
War II and Liberation of France
(France: c. 1945)
Newspapers Collection
nla.gov.au/nla.cat-vn159497



ABOVE
IVRY—David: *Pourvoeur de cet Immense Charnier Doit Être Juge et Exécuté Immédiatement. Nos Morts Crient Justice!*
(IVRY—David: *The Butcher of This Monstrous Graveyard Must Be Judged and Executed Now. Our Dead Are Crying for Justice!*) poster 7 in Collection of French Broadsides Relating to World War II and Liberation of France (France: c. 1945) Newspapers Collection nla.gov.au/nla.cat-vn159497

an important one. There were calls for reconstituting a strong French army; for parcels for soldiers at the front; and for women to collect wool and copper for military use. Hitler's final defeat brings explosions of joy—together with French Communist Party plaudits for the exploits of the Soviet Army. The need to honour Resistance heroes and martyrs is another theme, and there were demands for severe punishment of traitors (including the death penalty). There were also calls for the extirpation of any vestige of Vichy influence and for compensation for victims of Nazi rule and Vichy persecutions and expropriations. Yet another theme concerns the problems associated with the repatriation of the three million French people—POWs, deportees and workers in the obligatory labour program—still in Germany. Should elections

be held in their absence? Were arrangements to welcome them home adequate?

Beyond the documents directly related to the war, there are also many that address the immensely complicated issues arising from the return of peace. The Liberation may have been cause for pride and celebration; one colourful poster marks General de Gaulle's bestowal of the Liberation Cross on the City of Paris. But it was also accompanied by widespread physical destruction—by retreating Nazi forces, as in the town of Oradour, or by Allied bombing in the west and north of the country. Shortages were rife, and food, gas and electricity were expensive. There were high levels of unemployment, and pernicious black market activities. The peace was marred by persistent racism and anti-Semitism.

More than half of the broadsides in the collection were issued by the French Communist Party, or by communist-dominated organisations such as the *Front national*, *Union des femmes françaises*, *Front patriotique de la jeunesse*, and the *Fédération sportive et gymnique du travail*. So it is not surprising to find many instances of party-specific, propagandistic positions about social and political reconstruction: an emphasis on rebuilding the union movement, or on social justice in wages and job security; a push for the nationalisation of major services; keen anxiety about continued government funding of religious schools. On the other hand, we need to remember that the Communist Party emerged from the war greatly strengthened in numbers and, thanks to its prominent resistance activities, in prestige. In 1944 to 1945, it was the largest single political party in France, and the best organised. Furthermore, one of its central policies was to give priority to French national unity, based on the collaboration crafted among the various Resistance movements under de Gaulle's leadership. As a result, until the onset of the Cold War, the frontiers between communist and non-communist were far less defined than they would become after 1947, and the French Communist Party's ambitions to be representative of national concerns had considerable mainstream credibility.

Its strategy, largely successful, was to project itself as having a core of values around which various groupings and activities could be organised in the wider national interest. The broadside collection offers several examples of this. There was increased attention given

to women in the lead-up to the April 1945 municipal elections (not held since 1935), when women, for the first time in French history, were accorded the right to vote. Sporting clubs and events for young people were created. Social solidarity was encouraged through the Local Liberation committees, which provided a wide range of services, from help for the children of deportees or executed hostages, to soup kitchens, to larger-scale support for cities like Le Havre, destroyed during the Liberation process. A four-section giant poster announcing the 'adoption' of the Calvados town of Condé-sur-Noireau by the 6th arrondissement of Paris is one of the pearls of the collection.

One particularly intriguing initiative, seemingly never realised, was a grandiose project to replicate the ambitions of the French Enlightenment philosophers to gather all human knowledge into a single *Encyclopédie*. An *Encyclopédie de la Renaissance française* was to be directed by a range of luminaries representing the arts, sciences and technology. One finds such names as Éluard, Aragon, Hadamard, Dassault, Ibert, Joliot-Curie, Le Corbusier, Matisse, Picasso—many of whom, but not all, were communist. In this project, as elsewhere, the Communist Party was clearly seeking to position itself as a leader, but it was doing so within the framework of national tradition. From this perspective, it could readily be seen as serving the same ends as those expressed by de Gaulle: the revival of French grandeur.

The collection offers numerous indications of the material conditions in which the posters were produced. Many have been created cheaply, on poor-quality paper which has allowed the ink to bleed, and which is, in some cases, beginning to crumble. Occasionally, the haste of composition is betrayed by typographical errors. In 1944 to 1945, paper supplies were still severely limited, and a few of the posters are printed on the backs of older Vichy posters, or on sections of German maps. At the time, this was no doubt a simple appropriation of recyclable paper, but today there is something slightly eerie in the juxtaposition, rather like a palimpsest that reminds one how an unwanted, even a



rejected, past can cling to the present. This impression is accentuated by two freestanding Vichy-era posters that have found their way into the collection.

Relatively few of the broadsides are illustrated and, of those that are, many are in monochrome. Some of those which appear in full colour are quite arresting. Of course, colour is not the only criterion for visual effectiveness—one of the most confronting pieces in the collection juxtaposes monochrome images of Pétain's armistice handshake with Hitler with an open mass grave in a death camp, under the headline: *Ce que nous a coûté la poignée de main* (What that handshake cost us).

The most obvious potential users of this collection will be historians of France, of whom Australia boasts a good number with strong international reputations. Their major association, the George Rudé Society, also provides an ongoing forum for attracting visits from similarly interested scholars from around the world. More generally, however, these posters, with their comprehensive illustration of the nuances of the experience and politics of France's liberation from German occupation, and from the totalitarian straitjacket of the Vichy regime, are a precious archive of the emotions, ideas and actions generated by a devastating national trauma, and the ensuing determination to rechart the paths of human freedom.

COLIN NETTELBECK is Emeritus Professor of French at the University of Melbourne

ABOVE LEFT
Paris 25 Aout 1944: Le Général de Gaulle Remet La Croix de la Libération à la Ville de Paris le 2 Avril 1945 (Paris 25 August 1944: General de Gaulle Bestows the Liberation Cross on the City of Paris on 2 April 1945)
poster 12 in Collection of French Broadsides Relating to World War II and Liberation of France (France: c. 1945) Newspapers Collection nla.gov.au/nla.cat-vn159497

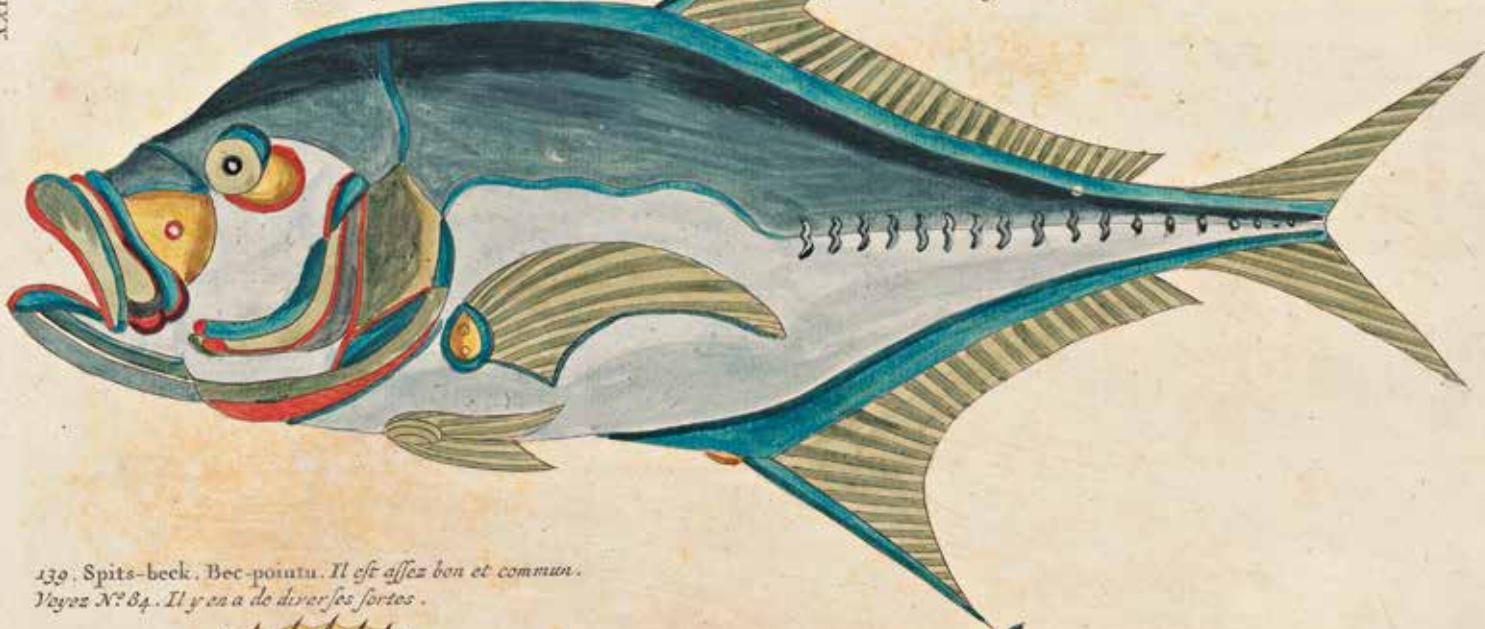
ABOVE
L'Encyclopédie de la Renaissance Française poster 8 in Collection of French Broadsides Relating to World War II and Liberation of France (France: c. 1945) Newspapers Collection nla.gov.au/nla.cat-vn159497

BACKGROUND
Femmes, c'est à Vous que s'Adressera le Mercredi 11 Avril à 19h au Vélodrome D'Hiver Maurice Thorez Secrétaire Général du Parti Communiste Français (Women, You Are the Ones Maurice Thorez, General Secretary of the French Communist Party, Will Address, on Wednesday 11 April at 7 pm at the Vélodrome d'Hiver)
poster 102 in Collection of French Broadsides Relating to World War II and Liberation of France (France: c. 1945) Newspapers Collection nla.gov.au/nla.cat-vn159497

OLD, RARE AND *Beautiful* BOOKS ON *Indonesia*

142. Babara. C'est un des meilleurs Poissons de toutes les Indes. Il est assez commun: il a la chair très-blanche et succulente. On en mange des huîtres, et qui se conservent très-bien dans une

pese ordinairement vingt ou vingt-cinq livres, et il est fait quelque fois des hachis, assaisonnes avec des épices, saumure de vinaigre et de sel.



139. Spits-beek. Bec-pointu. Il est assez bon et commun.
Voyez N° 84. Il y en a de diverses sortes.



140. Krooper. Poisson huileux et de mauvais goût.



ANDREW GOSLING INTRODUCES THE LIBRARY'S COLLECTION OF EARLY BOOKS ON INDONESIA

FOR MORE THAN 40 YEARS, THE NATIONAL Library, through its major book acquisition program based in Jakarta, has been developing one of the strongest resources in the world on contemporary Indonesia. Its collection consists mainly of twentieth and twenty-first century publications by Indonesian authors in their national language, Indonesian.

It also houses several manuscripts illustrating Indonesia's early forms of writing, such as palm-leaf and bark books. These examples are not of great age, as writings on such fragile materials do not survive well in the tropics. In 1971, the Library acquired several palm-leaf manuscripts from Bali, including part of the *Ramayana*—an ancient Indian poem about the hero Rama and his deeds among gods and demons—in Old Javanese. The Old Javanese version of this epic was probably composed in the ninth century, but the Library's copy is believed to date from the nineteenth or twentieth century. In 2009, the distinguished Australian writer Ray Aitchison also donated two Batak bark books, of uncertain age, to the Library. The Batak people of northern Sumatra had their own script, which is seen in tree-bark manuscripts created by magicians and healers for their rituals, oracles and medical recipes.

With the exception of items such as these, most of the Library's holdings on Indonesia published between 1550 and 1900 are by Westerners, and in European languages, reflecting the history of European travel, trade and exploration in the area, and the long period of colonial rule as the Dutch East Indies. Apart from books, the collections



include rare maps, charts and pictures of Indonesia and surrounding seas.

Europe's first great travel compendium, by the Venetian humanist Giovanni Battista Ramusio (1485–1557), covered most major Western travel accounts written before 1550. It was entitled *Navigation and Voyages ... from the Red Sea to the Moluccas (Navigationi et Viaggi)*. The Moluccas (or Maluku) were the fabled Spice Islands of eastern Indonesia, first reached by the Portuguese in 1512. The enlarged 1554 edition of Ramusio's first volume on Asia is housed in the Library's Petherick Collection. It includes a description of the Spice Islands and a detailed map of the Indonesian archipelago.

From the 1590s, the Dutch began their rise to dominance in Indonesia. In 1595 to 1597, Cornelis de Houtman led the first Dutch voyage to the area. The Library has several early imprints based on his travels, including the 1609 French language *First*

Book on the History of Navigation to the East Indies by the Dutch

(*Premier Livre de l'Histoire de la Navigation aux Indes Orientales par les Hollandais*)

by Willem Lodewijcksz.

This work provides a lengthy description of Java, and the first detailed account of Bali by a European. The original



OPPOSITE
Louis Renard (1678–1746)
Babara, Spits-beek and Krooper
plate XXIX in *Poissons, Ecrevisses et Crabes de Diverses Couleurs et Figures Extraordinaires, que l'on Trouve Autour des Isles Moluques* (Amsterdam: Louis Renard, 1718)
Australian Rare Books Collection
nla.ms-ms6240-3

ABOVE
Old Javanese Ramayana
between c. 1800 and 1971
wood and palm leaves
51 x 4 x 4 cm (folded)
Manuscripts Collection
MS 6240/3
nla.gov.au/nla.cat-vn4534496

BELOW LEFT
Batak Bark Book
tree bark; 8 x 6 x 1 cm (folded)
Manuscripts Collection
MS 3048
nla.gov.au/nla.cat-vn1591799

IN A PREVIOUS ISSUE

Old, Rare and Beautiful Books on India

Andrew Gosling reveals another collection of exquisite books held by the Library

* March 2012

nla.gov.au/pub/nlanews/2012/mar12/Old-Rare-and-Beautiful-Books-on-India.pdf

Dutch version, *First Book (D'eerste Boeck)* was published in 1598.

In 1599, Jacob van Neck led the first Dutch fleet to reach Maluku, returning with enough spices to make a 400 per cent profit on the voyage. The Library houses a 1601 edition of his *Journal or Daily Register (Journael ofte Dagh-Register)* also titled *Second Book (Het Tweede Boeck)*, as well as the 1601 French version and the English translation, *A Journall ... by Eight Shippes of Amsterdam*.

Competing traders were united as the Dutch East India Company in 1602, with wide powers to wage war and conclude treaties. Over time, the Dutch excluded rival nations from Indonesia, though the English retained a post in Sumatra until 1824 and the Portuguese remained in Timor until 1975. The bitter, seventeenth-century Anglo-Dutch trade war to control Indonesian spices is reflected in titles such as *The Emblem of Ingratitude ... Deceit, Cruelty and Tyranny of the Dutch* (1672). The Library's Rudolf Kern Collection contains rare pamphlets expressing the Dutch view. The oldest, *A True Account of What Happened in the Banda Islands in the East Indies (Waerachtich verhael, van 'tgeene inde Eylanden van Banda, in Oost-Indien)* dates from 1622. These tiny islands in Maluku produced extremely valuable nutmeg and mace, and were invaded by the Dutch in 1621 to enforce their spice monopoly against English and local traders. The pamphlet emphasises the hostile behaviour of

the English, and seeks to justify the Dutch invasion which led to the death or enslavement of Banda's people.

During the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, a number of detailed and often scholarly books were published about Indonesia, many beautifully illustrated. An extraordinary work on Indonesian sea creatures, *Fishes, Crayfishes and Crabs ... Found around Maluku (Poissons, Ecrevisses et Crabes ... que l'on Trouve autour des Isles Moluques)*, was produced by Louis Renard (1678–1746), a French publisher

in Amsterdam. The brightly coloured, and at times bizarre, illustrations depict fish, crustaceans and even a mermaid—though sadly she is missing from the Library's incomplete copy. The book is one of the first publications to show fish in colour, and even includes suggested recipes. The Library holds an extremely rare original in French published around 1718 and a modern English edition.

The first detailed European book on life in eastern Indonesia was written by Ernst Christoph Barchewitz (1687–1758), a German working for the Dutch East India Company who became governor of the island of Leti near Timor in 1714. It described the environment, economy and society in a positive and accurate manner. In 2009, the Library acquired the second edition, dated 1751, entitled *Newly Enlarged Description of Travels in the East Indies (Neu-vermehrte Ost-Indianische Reise-Beschreibung)*.

After working for the English East India Company in Sumatra from 1770 to 1779, William Marsden (1754–1836) became first secretary to the Admiralty and a Fellow of the Royal Society. He wrote *The History of Sumatra*, the first detailed account of the history, geography and customs of the island in any European language. His rigorous, scholarly approach became a model for later writings on the region. The Library holds the original 1783 edition and later versions, as well as his book *A Grammar of the Malayan Language* (1812) and his Malay dictionary.

Sir Stamford Raffles (1781–1826) was to model his work, *The History of Java*—one of the best known titles about Indonesia in English—on Marsden's *History*. Raffles was Lieutenant-Governor of Java from 1811 to 1816, during the brief period of British rule at the time of the Napoleonic Wars. His book's wide scope includes history, languages, culture, the environment and many other subjects. He was greatly assisted by Indonesian scholars. The illustrations, particularly the coloured aquatints of Javanese costume and scenery by the artist William Daniell (1769–1837), are highly regarded. The Library houses the first edition, published in 1817, and the second edition, dated 1830.

A year after the publication of Raffles' book, the first edition of *Maritime World (Le Monde Maritime)*, of which the Library holds a rare complete 1818 copy, was issued. Its author, Charles Walckenaer (1771–1852), was a French writer, geographer and naturalist. His

BELOW
William Daniell (1769–1837)
A Javan Chief in His Ordinary Dress
opposite page 88 in
The History of Java, vol. 2, by
Sir Thomas Stamford Raffles
(London: John Murray, 1830)
Overseas Collection
nla.gov.au/nla.cat-vn1042601



four-volume miniature book is a history and geography of Indonesia, with hand-coloured plates of people and places. A fifth volume covering Australia was never published.

The first American to carry out scientific research in Indonesia was Dr Thomas Horsfield (1773–1859), who lived there for almost two decades. He became friends with Raffles, while the latter was Lieutenant-Governor, and provided material for *The History of Java*. In his *Zoological Researches in Java, and the Neighbouring Islands*, published in 1824, Horsfield said that he aimed ‘to exhibit accurate figures, accompanied by detailed descriptions of the most interesting quadrupeds and birds collected during my residence in Java’. He also made use of Raffles’ own collections, including a sun bear. The Mathews and Rex Nan Kivell collections each include a copy of *Zoological Researches*.

Between 1856 and 1862, the great British naturalist and collector, Alfred Russel Wallace (1823–1913), travelled across Indonesia. While ill with malaria in Maluku, he conceived, independently of Charles Darwin, the theory of evolution through natural selection. Wallace also identified the geographical boundary in Indonesia between Asian and Australian biological regions, later called the Wallace Line. He described his scientific explorations in *The Malay Archipelago* (1869). The Library holds this first edition.

The Library also has some remarkable books on the natural and cultural history of Indonesia. One of these is by Karl Ludwig Blume (1796–1862), a leading German-born botanist, who spent most of his career in Indonesia and the Netherlands. His colourfully illustrated *Collection of the Most Remarkable Orchids from the East Indies and Japan (Collection des Orchidées les Plus Remarquables de l'Archipel Indien et du Japon)* dates from 1858. The

Library also houses a rare complete set

of Javanese Shadow Theatre (*De Wajang Poerwa*), published in 1896 by Lindor Serrurier (1846–1901), director of the National Museum of Ethnography in the Netherlands. This study of *wayang kulit* (Javanese leather shadow puppets) consists of text and a much larger volume of colour plates. Serrurier provides a chronology of shadow-puppet history drawn from Javanese sources.

While developing its outstanding modern Indonesian collection, the Library is also continuing to acquire rare, beautiful and historically significant books about Australia’s northern neighbour produced before the twentieth century. These works provide readers with extensive resources on the early history, languages, cultures, societies and natural environment of the Indonesian archipelago.



ABOVE
Charles Athanase Walckenaer (1771–1852)
Plantation House in Sumatra
page 90 in *Le Monde Maritime ou, Tableau Géographique et Historique de l'Archipel d'Orient, de la Polynésie, et de l'Australie*, vol. 4
(Paris: Nepveu, 1818)
Australian Rare Books Collection
nla.gov.au/nla.cat-vn176932

BETWEEN
P.J. Mulder Leiden (lithographer)
Pandoe—Koentibodja, Koenti, Narada, Goenoengan
plate 3 in *De Wajang Poerwa: Eene Ethnologische Studie* by Lindor Serrurier
(Leiden: E.J. Brill, 1896)
Rare Books Collection
nla.gov.au/nla.cat-vn485296

ANDREW GOSLING, the Library’s former Chief Librarian, Asian Collections, is the author of NLA Publishing’s *Asian Treasures: Gems of the Written Word* (2011). Indonesia is the Australia International Cultural Council’s Focus Country in 2014



A NEW INSIGHT INTO Rose De Freycinet's

In 1817, Rose de Freycinet cut her hair, dressed in men's clothes and famously stowed away on the French naval ship *Uranie* to accompany her husband, Captain Louis de Freycinet, around the world. Her diary, first published in Paris in 1927, has delighted many readers, but a recent acquisition for the Library's Manuscripts Collection reveals that it was censored before publication.

Around 1923, the French scholar Charles Duplomb was given permission by the Baron de Freycinet to transcribe a copy of Rose's original diary. It is this transcribed copy that has been acquired by the Library. (The original diary was sold by the Freycinet family and there is no public record of its buyer.) Several sections of the transcribed diary are crossed out in pencil. It is almost certain that the censor was a member of the Freycinet family.



One of the deletions concerns the loss of the *Uranie* after the ship struck a rock off a headland in the Falkland Islands. In the published version, Rose reports the later comment of a whaling captain that there was a safe route past the fatal headland. The crossed-out lines in her diary throw more light on this:

Louis' first intention was to sail close to the point which the captain said would have been safe but then he changed his mind and sailed further out and struck the rock. If he had continued his first route, we would not have touched it.

This deletion is explained by a marginal note: 'very embarrassing'.

After the wreck, Louis became ill. All references to his symptoms, such as biliousness and painful hiccups, and to the opium he used to manage the pain, have been crossed



BY LINDA GROOM

Diary

out, because these details 'reflect on the health of the commander'.

Not all the deletions relate to Louis. The published diary mentions Rose's appreciation of fresh oysters found near Shark Bay in Western Australia; the unpublished sentences paint the delightful picture of her eating them while seated on a rock, her glass and napkin on the sand. Presumably the proximity of a lady's person to such elements of nature without the intervention of a chair was not suitable for public mention.

French society, from King Louis XVIII to the protective gentlemen of the 1920s who censored Rose's writings, managed to accept her unconventional voyage as an example of wifely devotion. It is a delight that her true voice has survived in this transcribed diary. ●



INSET (OPPOSITE)

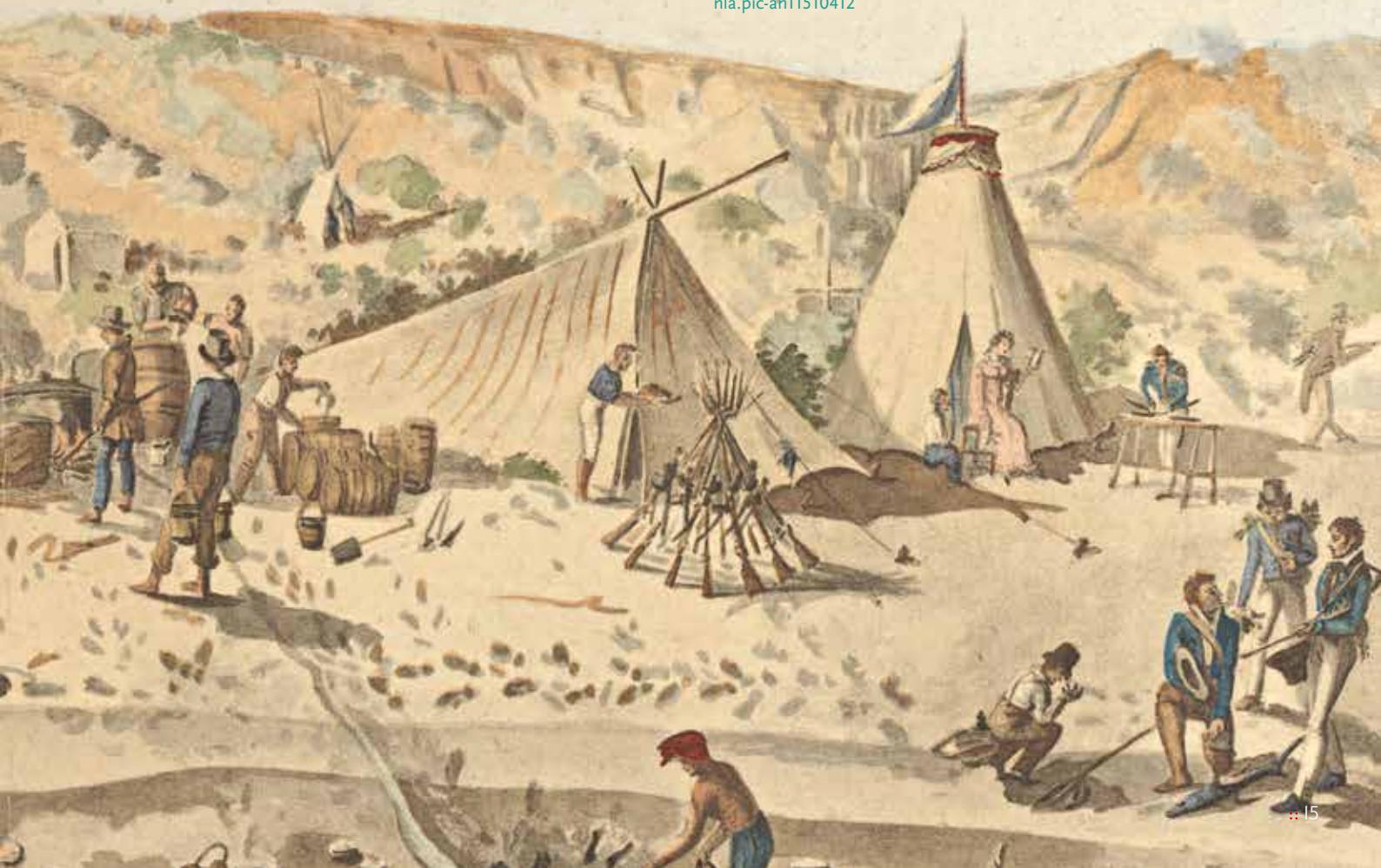
Rose Marie Pinon, *Later de Freycinet (1794–1832)*, Paris, 1812, Aged 17. From an engraving of an original portrait in the possession of Baron Henri de Freycinet.

BACKGROUND IMAGE

Alphonse Pellion
Baie des Chiens-Marins: Observatoire de l'Uranie c. 1822 colour collotype; 29.5 x 34.8 cm plate 7 in *Journal de Madame Rose de Saulces de Freycinet* (Paris: Société d'Éditions Géographiques, Maritimes et Coloniales, 1927) Pictures Collection nla.pic-an11510412

ABOVE

Journal de Madame Rose de Freycinet d'après le Manuscrit Original, Accompagné de Notes par Charles Duplomb, Directeur Honoraire au Ministère de la Marin (Paris: Société d'Éditions Géographiques, Maritimes et Coloniales, 1927) in *Documents Relating to Louis and Rose de Freycinet, 1802–1927* Manuscripts Collection, MS 10124 nla.ms-ms10124





MARY GILMORE

Courage and Grace

HOW MUCH DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THE WOMAN ON THE TEN-DOLLAR NOTE? JENNIFER GALL TRACES AN EXTRAORDINARY LIFE

ABOVE
Adelaide Perry (1891–1973)
Portrait of Dame Mary Gilmore
1928
oil on plywood panel on composition board
45.3 x 35.5 cm
Pictures Collection
nla.pic-an2292680

BETWEEN
Walter G. Mason
Sheep Washing at a Station near Goulburn (detail)
wood engraving; 7.2 x 21.5 cm
Pictures Collection
nla.pic-an8008832

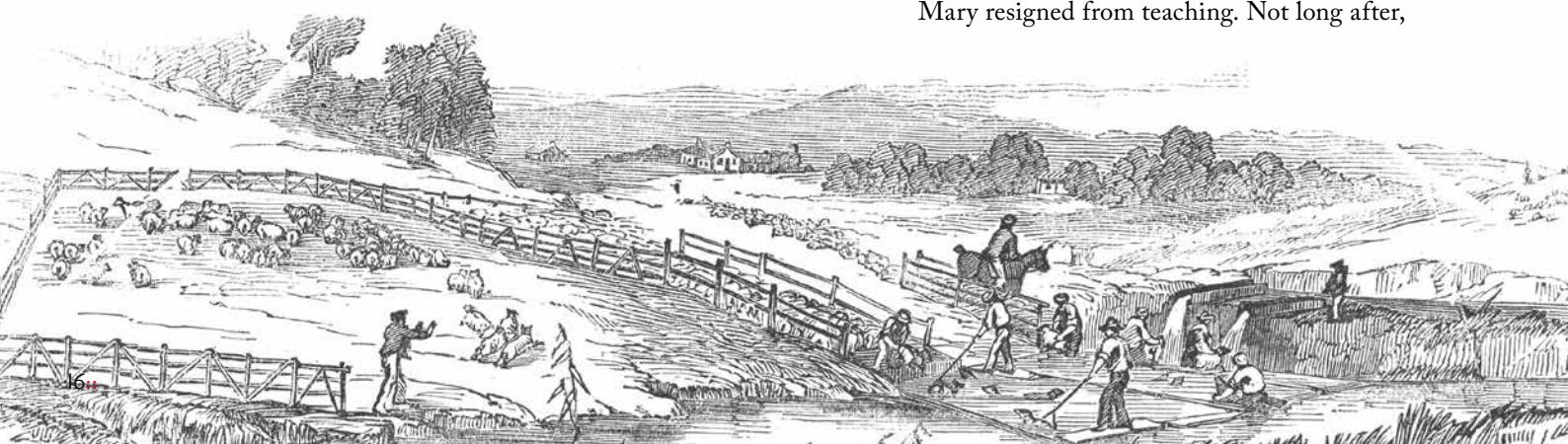
MARY GILMORE—POET, JOURNALIST and activist—led a radical life. Brought up in rural New South Wales, she taught in isolated schools, campaigned for the poor, married in Paraguay in a utopian community, and fought tirelessly for those in difficulty. Whether as a teacher, journalist, activist or mother, her approach to life was shaped by a keen sense of social justice.

Born Mary Jean Cameron in 1865, near Goulburn in New South Wales, Gilmore was the child of settlers who left the cities behind to make new lives in the Australian bush. Her rural upbringing was formative; far from the refinements of a city education, Mary learned resourcefulness and independence. She was taught to shoot a rifle before the age of 10 after a bushranger threatened her home and, as the eldest child, accompanied her father on his travels as a property manager and building

contractor. It was on such journeys that she witnessed firsthand the discrepancies between the lives and circumstances of the struggling free selectors and those of the squatters who regarded themselves as Australia's aristocracy, determining at an early age to defend those who had not enough food, clothing or remuneration for their labour.

Mary's formal education ended when she was 12. She left home to become a pupil-teacher, first near Cootamundra, then in the Albury district. At age 22, she qualified as a teacher. It was while posted at Silverton, near Broken Hill—in a one-room class teaching students of all ages—that Gilmore witnessed industrial disturbances among the miners and discovered a burning sense of social justice. The publication of her first poem, *Unrest*, in the local literary journal, established her stance as an activist.

After being diagnosed with tuberculosis, Mary resigned from teaching. Not long after,



her mother, unsatisfied with the isolation and domestic grind of life in the country, moved to Sydney to live in boarding houses and work as a journalist for *The Town and Country Journal*. Mary sent her news reports from the country to her mother to publish and, in 1890, joined her in Sydney. She taught first at Neutral Bay, then at Stanmore Public School, making an impression on her students because of her eccentric short hair which she cut herself.

In the city, Mary saw many areas of injustice and wage inequality in the urban workforce. She dedicated herself to the radical political movement, participating in the maritime strike of 1890 and organising relief for the families of men engaged in the shearers' strike of 1891. Mary was convinced that organised labour offered universal prosperity to humanity in a new society based on complete equality and justice. She evaded the wrath of the Education Department by writing her political commentaries under a pseudonym.

It was at this time that Mary met the young Henry Lawson with whom, through their shared social vision, she formed a deep friendship. Henry took Mary to visit the areas of Sydney where the working class lived in squalor. Mary took on the challenge of making life better for those struggling masses in the slums as a personal responsibility.

As a result of her activism, Mary's boarding-house room in Bligh Street became a centre for writers and reformers to meet informally and discuss change. When the amalgamation of the Australian Shearers' Union and the General Labourers' Union of Australasia created the Australian Workers' Union in



1894, Mary became the first woman member and member of the executive. Among her friends was a large group of writers who wrote for *The Bulletin* and *The Worker*: artists who contributed to the forming of a national literature. One of these was John Farrell, a freelance writer and editor, who encouraged Mary to write and to send pieces to *The Worker*. She sent tales sparked by the sights she had seen in the slums, condensed into sentimental cameo pieces.

Despite the strength of their friendship, Mary and Lawson were not to marry, but their shared interest in the Labour movement endured. After the triumphs for unionism of the 1880s, the early 1890s saw falling prices for wool and wheat, which brought unemployment and gave bargaining power to the employers, creating defeat and disillusionment for the workers. At this low ebb, the charismatic journalist and political figure William Lane announced his radical

'New Australia' scheme. Lane believed he could create a colony run entirely on cooperative lines: all would work, all

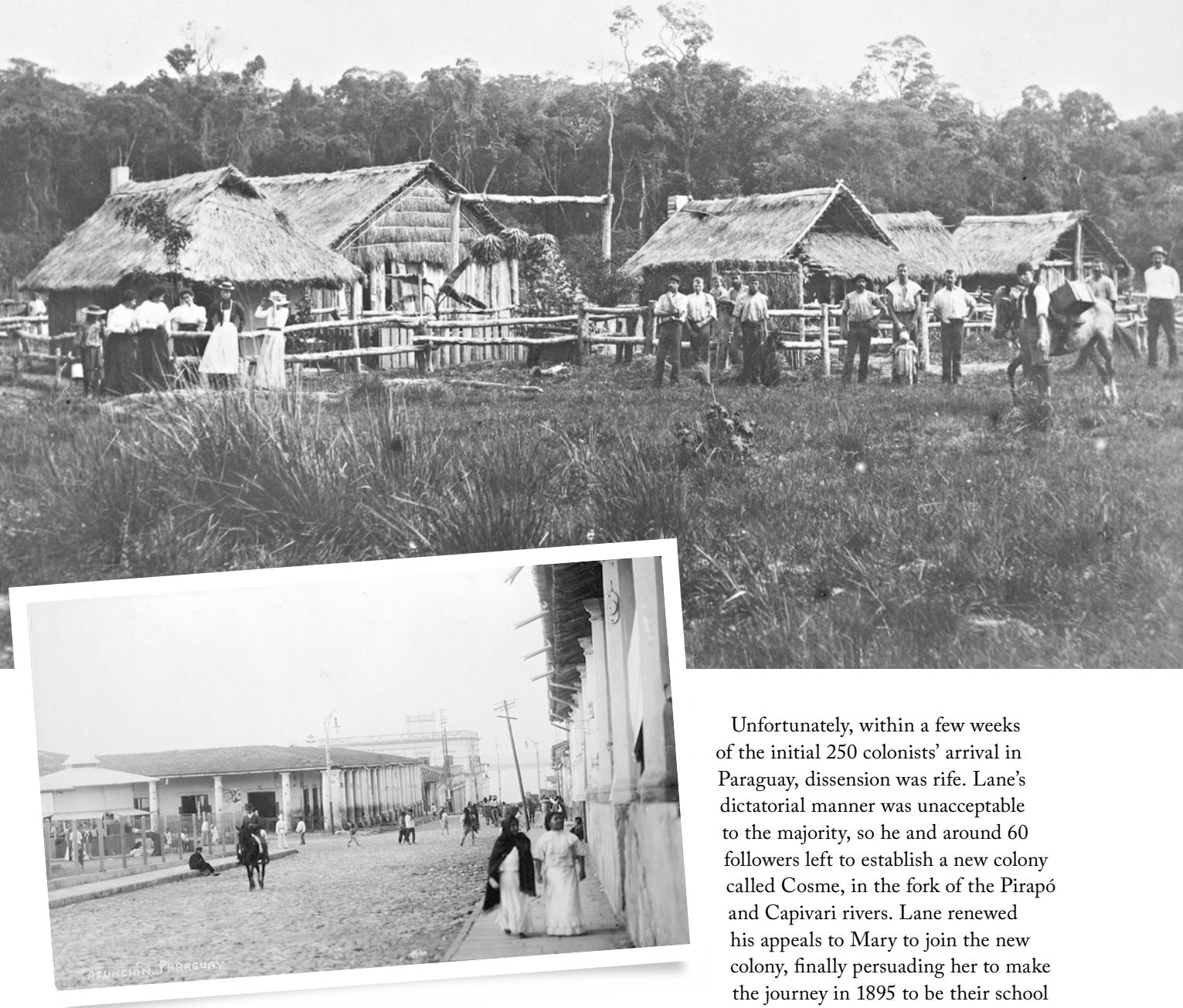
IN A PREVIOUS ISSUE
The Queensland Shearers' Strike in the 1890s
 Ann Nugent reveals a lesser-known Australian rebellion.
 * June 2012
nla.gov.au/pub/nlanews/2012/jun12/the-queensland-shearers-strike-in-the-1890s.pdf

ABOVE
Removing Shearers during the 1891 Great Strike, Hughenden, Queensland 1891
 b&w negative; 6.7 x 11 cm
 Pictures Collection
nla.pic-an23378006

BELOW FROM LEFT
New South Wales Government Printer Bligh Street from Hunter Street, Looking North, Sydney 1892
 albumen photographic print; 26.6 x 35.3 cm
 Courtesy Mitchell Library,
 State Library of New South Wales, SPF / 3460

Australian Workers' Union: Member's Certificate 1890s in Australian Workers' Union: Ephemera Material Collected by the National Library of Australia
 Ephemera Collection
nla.usc-vn1077083





ABOVE
A Group of People, Including Mary Gilmore, at the New Australia Colony, Cosme, Paraguay 1890s
 b&w photograph;
 10.1 x 15.5 cm
 Pictures Collection
 nla.pic-an24636968

INSET

Asuncion, Paraguay c. 1900
 b&w negative; 6.8 x 10.7 cm
 Pictures Collection
 nla.pic-an24637042

needs would be met by common effort, and all profits would be shared by the community. When attempts to obtain land for the colony in Australia were unsuccessful, Lane and his organisers sought, and were granted, more than 100 square kilometres from the Paraguayan government in South America. They left Australia on 16 July 1893.

Mary was not convinced by the argument that setting up an isolated utopian colony far from Australia was the way to make things better in her homeland. She was, however, very impressed by Lane's eloquence and idealism, as he was with her intelligence, remarking with prejudice typical of the time: 'You reason like a man—indeed, I have met few men who can reason like you'.

Unfortunately, within a few weeks of the initial 250 colonists' arrival in Paraguay, dissension was rife. Lane's dictatorial manner was unacceptable to the majority, so he and around 60 followers left to establish a new colony called Cosme, in the fork of the Pirapó and Capivari rivers. Lane renewed his appeals to Mary to join the new colony, finally persuading her to make the journey in 1895 to be their school teacher. Mary was also in love with Dave Stevenson, who was already in Cosme, and she hoped that they would marry.

After an epic journey, Mary arrived—but found that her beau had already married another woman. Instead, she was to go on to marry William Gilmore, a former shearer and one of Lane's original colonists, in May 1897. He was strong, practical, handsome, and very much a man of the bush. One year after the birth of her baby, Billy, Gilmore was teaching all the school-age children of Cosme, writing the daily newspaper, sharing communal gardening duties, cooking and cleaning. In her happy, full life, she began to write verse seriously, and the first collection of poems, *Marri'd and Other Verses* (1910), was later published as a celebration of family life.

Life in Cosme did not continue to be joyful. The idealistic theory of communism had not translated into a practical kind of government. In August 1899, William and Mary Gilmore resigned from the community and the family left with very little money. Finally, in 1902, they had accumulated enough savings to board a ship to Buenos Aires, and then to England, where they stayed with Henry Lawson, his wife Bertha and his two children in a bitter-sweet reunion before continuing home to Australia.

Mary's joy at returning to an energetic, vibrant working life in Sydney was cut short by the need to move to Casterton, in Victoria, to run William's family farm. For several years, the mental conflict between loyalty to husband and son living a rural life and the need to engage in politics and journalism in the city tested Mary sorely. Whenever she could, she wrote for *The Worker*, *The Bulletin* and *New Idea*, explaining her method to the editor of *The Bulletin's Red Page*, A.G. Stephens:

I have only odds and ends of time between cooking, sweeping, washing and mending ... the stuff I write simply has to be—to use the language of the locality—'chucked' together, and what won't shape in the process of chucking has simply to be chopped off.

It was an exceptional day for her on 1 October 1903, when *The Bulletin* dedicated the Red Page to a selection of her poems and a biographical article. From her own struggles with loneliness and isolation, Mary concluded that lack of companionship compounded the physical burden of heavy farm and domestic duties and family illnesses borne by bush women. She determined that their situation and their problems should become part of the Labour cause and that women should be able to read journalism that spoke to their needs. Mary wrote to the editor of *The Worker* suggesting that a Women's Page be added so that women could exchange information and communicate with each other. The editor agreed, adding that Mary was the right person to look after the new page. The leader she wrote on 9 January 1908 sent out an appeal:

I would like every woman who wants help to understand things to write to me, and every woman who knows some little

labour-saving way of doing things ... to send in her item. In this way all will help all.

It was answered by hundreds of letters from girls and women of all classes, trades and professions.

After three years working from Casterton, the Gilmores were free to leave, and it was agreed that Mary and Billy would go to Sydney while Billy attended school. William would join his brother on a property in North Queensland. While it was an arrangement made by many in an era when men had to travel to find work, this separation was never reversed. Despite a lifetime of correspondence between Mary and William, they never lived together again.

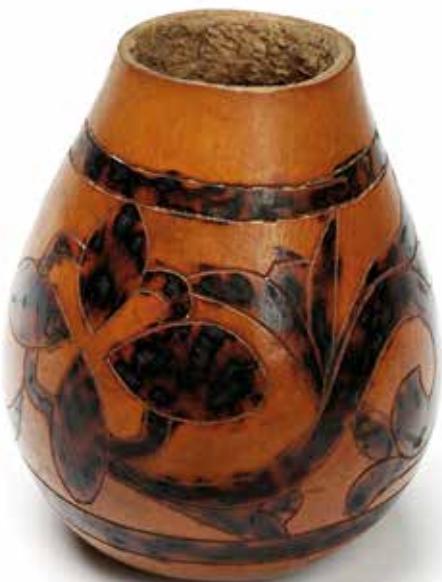
Mary's early experiences in a rural pioneering family, and in Paraguay battling the environment and struggling to earn a living, remained as touchstones in her city life. In Sydney, she fought constantly for higher wages; better hours and conditions; better health services; increased aid for the aged, sick and poor; maternity grants and child endowment to provide fundamental assistance to women and children; publicly supported nursing services; and firm government commitment to education for all ages. Her journalism espoused the rights of the workers, and her popularity was huge.

Gilmore died in 1962. While she lived her last years in a tiny Darlinghurst flat, she always observed the code of bush hospitality, welcoming all who sought her out with generous amounts of her time and energy. Her powerful legacy is described beautifully by author Kylie Tennant:

She was a myth in a land where myths were needed—and she was the right kind of myth—she joined believers together.

JENNIFER GALL is a writer and Manager of Research Programs at the National Film and Sound Archive

BELOW
Calabash (Gourd)
from *Material from New Australia, Paraguay and Fiji*,
Owned by Dame Mary Gilmore
c. 1898–1962
Courtesy Mitchell Library,
State Library of New South Wales, R 928 / Item 49



LES MURRAY is probably Australia's best-known contemporary poet, with a career spanning over 40 years. He has produced 14 volumes of poetry, as well as two verse novels and a collected prose. Murray espouses poetry of most kinds and periods, and is critical of intellectual snobbery and what he calls 'the gang warfare of literary fashions'.

Murray, the son of dairy farmers, was born in 1938 and grew up in Bunyah, in the New South Wales mid-north coast hinterland. He studied at Sydney University—though he was more interested in reading voraciously than attending formal lectures—and went on to work as a translator at the Australian National University. In 1971, Murray resigned from what he described as his 'respectable cover occupations' to write poetry full-time. In the mid-1980s, he and his family moved back to Bunyah, where he has continued to live ever since.

At the Widening of a War was published in 2002 in *Poems the Size of Photographs*, and has since been updated, as in the version below, to include a dedication. A comparison between the draft and published work reveals the poem's evolution into a series of short stanzas, each consisting of a single vivid image or impression.



AT THE WIDENING OF A WAR

for 9/11

Everyone was frightened of the sky.

Each night, Mars emerged at the zenith.
A bleb of pure rage tore off the Sun.

For days, the living and the dead
hung in the air like dust
whirled aloft from tired roads.

The fuselage of a lobster lay abandoned.

The Isles of the Blest were receding
to their sailing distances
and the gunfire of tourist shoes was stilled.

Sports stadiums and crowds loomed from another age.

The blow struck now
would be weaker than the blow withheld.

TOP Alec Bolton (1926–1996)

Portrait of Les Murray, Chatswood 1984
gelatin silver photograph; 25.1 x 20.1 cm
Pictures Collection, nla.pic-an14469880-1
Courtesy Robert Bolton

ABOVE At the Widening of a War in *Poems the Size of Photographs*
Sydney: Duffy and Snellgrove, 2002, p. 106

LEFT manuscript of *At the Widening of a War*
Manuscripts Collection, MS 5332, Box 52, Folder 367
nla.gov.au/nla.cat-vn1099918
Courtesy Les Murray



Hidden Treasures of Australia's North

COBOURG PENINSULA, IN THE NORTHERN TERRITORY, IS ONE OF THE WORLD'S UNIQUE WETLANDS

MAY 2014 IS THE FORTIETH ANNIVERSARY of the designation of Cobourg Peninsula, in the Northern Territory, as the world's first Wetland of International Importance under the Ramsar Convention.

Located on the northernmost part of the mainland of Australia, Cobourg Peninsula is difficult to access by land. It is about 100 kilometres north of Kakadu National Park and 560 kilometres by road from Darwin.

This isolation has helped Cobourg to retain many of the natural values that resulted in its listing as a Ramsar wetland. It has a variety of wetland habitats in an undisturbed condition, including freshwater springs, estuaries, creeks, mangroves, fringing corals and seagrass communities. These are home to Flatback and Green Turtles, communities of resident and migratory seabirds, and large fish populations. The area is particularly famous for the quality of its fishing: it contains Barramundi,

Mangrove Jack and other sportfish such as Barracuda, Queen Fish, Trevally, Coral Trout and Jewfish.

While visiting this unique corner of Australia is out of reach for many of us, its landscapes and cultural history can be explored through the collections of the National Library. The Library's aptly named Trove website (trove.nla.gov.au) lists an array of treasures including books, maps, journals and audio resources about Cobourg Peninsula, as well as a variety of materials about Australia's wetlands more generally.

However, it is Trove's newspaper collection that really sparks the imagination, with accounts from early European explorers and settlers about Cobourg's environmental riches, its history and the experiences of Indigenous, Macassan and European people in the region.

Indigenous people have lived on the peninsula for over 40,000 years. The

The Convention on Wetlands of International Importance has the unique distinction of being the first modern treaty between nations aimed at conserving natural resources. The signing of the Convention took place in 1971 at the small Iranian town of Ramsar. Since then, it has been known as the Ramsar Convention.

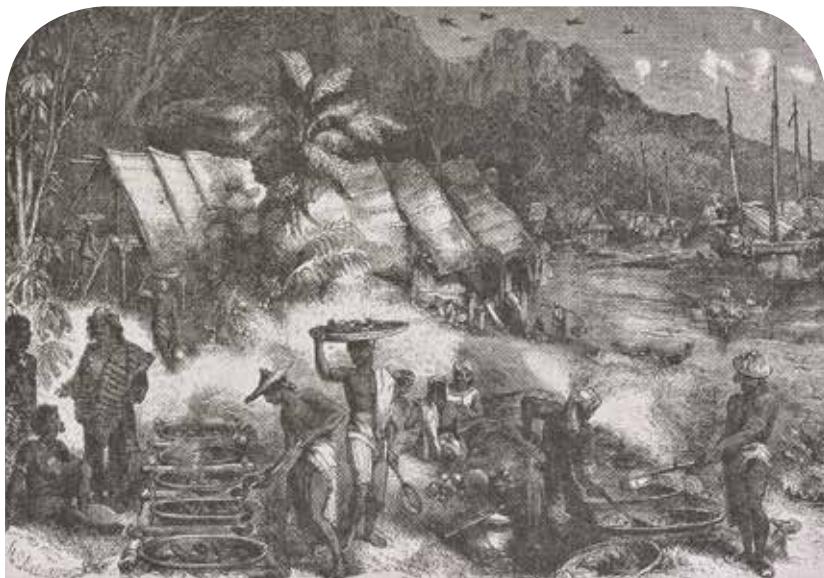
The Convention's broad aims are to halt the worldwide loss of wetlands and to conserve, through wise use and management, those that remain.

ABOVE FROM LEFT
Jeanette Muirhead
Rock Formations at Smith Point on the Cobourg Peninsula 2009 colour digital photograph

Tony Howard
Green Turtle 2007 colour digital photograph

Michelle McAulay
Mangroves near the Victoria Settlement, Cobourg Peninsula 2009 colour digital photograph

Images on this page courtesy of the Australian Government Department of the Environment



ABOVE
Macassan Trepang Fishery in Port Essington, Australia, 1845
 page 28 in *Trepang: China and the Story of Macassan-Aboriginal Trade* by Marcia Langton (Melbourne: Centre for Cultural Materials Conservation, University of Melbourne, 2011)
 Australian Collection nla.cat-vn4804974

BELOW
 Louis Le Breton (artist, d. 1866),
 Emile Lassalle (lithographer,
 1813–1871)
Port Essington (Côte N. de l'Australie) c. 1846
 hand-coloured lithograph
 28 x 41.5 cm
 Pictures Collection nla.pic-an7851127

traditional owners are the Iwaidja-speaking peoples, with custodianship shared between clan groups. These clans have continuous spiritual links with the land and sea, and continue to practise traditional hunting and fishing, including for dugongs, turtles, magpie geese, fish, crabs and oysters.

The Macassans, from present-day Indonesia, traded with Indigenous people for centuries, seeking trepang, also known as sea slugs or sea cucumbers. Trepang look like brown or black prickly cucumbers and feed at the bottom of sheltered harbours. At low water, the Macassan fishermen waded in knee-deep to collect the trepang. In deeper water, barbed iron darts were used. They cured the trepang by simmering them over a fire in an iron cauldron for about half an hour, then peeling and drying them on a bamboo frame over a fire.

In exchange for the right to take trepang, the Macassans traded a range of items including cloth, tobacco, metal axes and knives.

Like the Macassans, the Malays regularly came to the peninsula to collect ironwood, a strong, heavy timber,

to make masts and anchors for their boats. They also collected the bark of the *Morinda citrifolia*, which was used for making a red dye for colouring cloth and batik.

The first recorded sighting of the Northern Territory coastline by Europeans was by Dutch navigator Willem Janszoon aboard the ship *Duyfken* in 1606. Another Dutch explorer, Abel Tasman, and numerous French navigators, also charted the coast, naming many prominent features.

The peninsula was surveyed in 1818 by Phillip Parker King, son of Philip Gidley King, third Governor of New South Wales. King charted areas of the Australian coast which were not surveyed in detail by Matthew Flinders, taking his 17 metre-long cutter, *Mermaid*, around Western Australia and across the Top End.

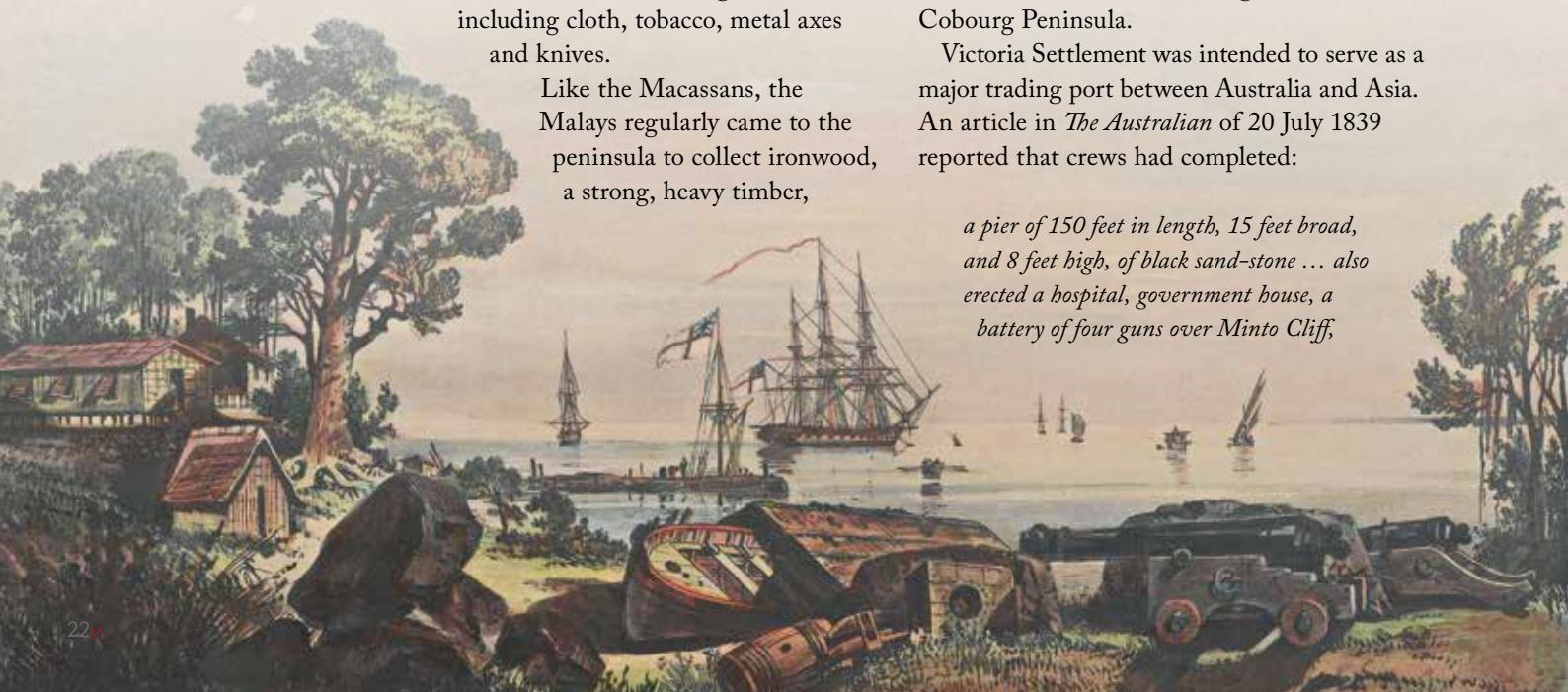
It was fear of Dutch and French expansion into northern Australia, and the opportunity to develop a trading port, that led the British to attempt to settle on the Cobourg Peninsula. The proposal was reported in the *South Australian Gazette and Colonial Register* of 14 July 1838:

Attention has long been directed to this part of our fifth continent ... from its highly favorable position for carrying on a commercial intercourse with the eastern portion of the Indian Archipelago, of which the new settlement is likely to become the emporium as Singapore has become that of the western portion.

Between 1838 and 1849, the British established one of the first settlements in northern Australia, Victoria Settlement, on the western side of Port Essington on the Cobourg Peninsula.

Victoria Settlement was intended to serve as a major trading port between Australia and Asia. An article in *The Australian* of 20 July 1839 reported that crews had completed:

a pier of 150 feet in length, 15 feet broad, and 8 feet high, of black sand-stone ... also erected a hospital, government house, a battery of four guns over Minto Cliff,





several store-houses, officers' mess-room, and other buildings for the officers of the settlement. About 80 acres of land were cleared, the foundation of a church and barracks laid, and a spot marked out for another battery to command the harbour.

Explorer Ludwig Leichhardt visited Cobourg Peninsula on his expedition from Moreton Bay. A facsimile report of his journey—*Journal of an Overland Expedition in Australia from Moreton Bay to Port Essington: A Distance of Upwards of 3,000 Miles during the Years 1844–1845*—can also be found in the Library.

In his lecture delivered at the Sydney School of Arts, and reported in *The Sydney Morning Herald* on 20 August 1846, he described the wetlands of the region as follows:

Its leading features are large swampy lagoons, extensive plains at the lower part of their course, densely wooded, ironstone ridges, and a great number of creeks in the Cobourg Peninsula, with limited flats of rich alluvial soil, which are richly clothed with herbs and grasses during and immediately after the rainy season. The creeks generally enlarge into swamps called 'Mariars' by the natives, before they are lost in the mangrove thicket, which covers their junction with the sea.

Unfortunately, all hopes for opening up the north in this location were dashed when the area failed to attract settlers due to the tropical weather conditions, isolation, distance from the colony of Sydney and the home government in England, and lack of resources,

supplies and skilled labour. Meanwhile, disease amongst the small population was rampant.

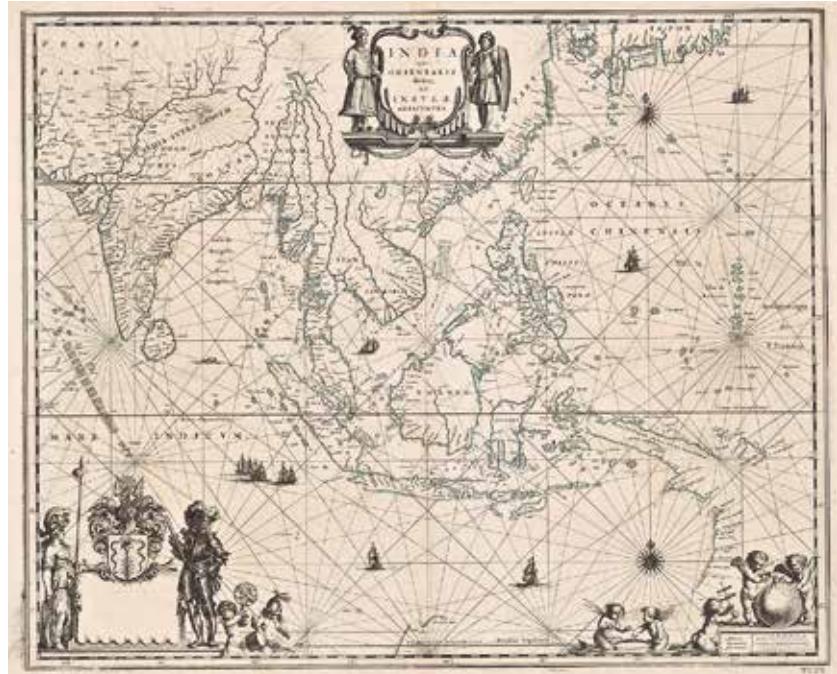
In the 1840s, British scientist Thomas Huxley wrote that Port Essington was 'most wretched, the climate most unhealthy, the human beings the most uncomfortable and the houses in a condition most decayed and rotten'.

Despite this, the peninsula continued to attract attention as an area of particular interest for its landscapes and wildlife. In 1924, it was declared a Flora and Fauna Reserve by the Commonwealth.

In 1931, the federal government declared Arnhem Land, including Cobourg Peninsula, an Aboriginal reserve. During the 1950s, all the remaining traditional owners were removed to a government settlement on nearby

ABOVE
John McArthur (1791–1862)
General View of Port Essington, Northern Territory, Australia 1839
watercolour; 33.6 x 92 cm
Pictures Collection
nla.pic-an5863766

BELOW
Willem Janszoon Blaeu (1571–1638)
India quae Orientalis Dicitur, et Insulae Adiacentes
39.6 x 48.5 cm
Maps Collection
nla.map-t222





ABOVE

Louis Le Breton (artist, d. 1866),
Léon Jean Baptiste Sabatier
(lithographer, d. 1887)
New Victoria, Port Essington,
lithograph; 19.6 x 31 cm
plate 120 in *Atlas Pittoresque, Voyage
au Pole sud et Dans l'Oceanie* by
J. Dumont d'Urville, vol. 2
(Paris: Gide, c. 1846)
Pictures Collection
nla.pic-an7851132

Croker Island. However, Indigenous people continued to observe their customs, traditions and beliefs, and maintained their relationship to their land.

In 1962, the peninsula was declared a sanctuary under the Wildlife Conservation and Control Ordinance, providing legislative protection for the site. Its natural values and protected status led to it being declared an internationally important wetland under the Ramsar Convention in 1974. This listing was considered a relatively daring move by the Australian Government, which demonstrated a progressive approach to conservation by being the first nation to list a wetland under the new Convention. Today, Australia has 65 wetlands on the Ramsar list, covering 8.3 million hectares.

The peninsula was declared a Northern Territory conservation reserve (Gurig National Park) in 1981. It was notable as the first national park in Australia to be jointly managed with the Indigenous traditional owners through a formal board-of-management structure. It then became part of the Garig Gunak Barlu National

Park, which continues to be jointly managed by the Indigenous traditional owners and the Parks and Wildlife Commission of the Northern Territory.

The diversity of its wetland habitats, its role in supporting biodiversity, its Indigenous social and cultural values and its historical significance make Cobourg Peninsula one of Australia's most fascinating Ramsar sites.

This article was provided by the Wetlands Section of the Australian Government Department of the Environment

IN A PREVIOUS ISSUE

From Trebatsch to Australia
Roslyn Russell reviews the achievements of oft-maligned explorer Ludwig Leichhardt
★ September 2013
nla.gov.au/pub/nlanews/2013/sept13/september_2013_magazine.pdf



NETTIE HUXLEY'S CHILDREN'S BOOKS

KERRY WHITE WRITES ABOUT A WOMAN WHO HAD MORE ADVENTURES IN AUSTRALIA THAN A FICTIONAL HEROINE

BORN HENRIETTA ANNE HEATHORN, Nettie Huxley wrote two books for children under the name H.A.H. in the early 1880s, years after she had sailed from Sydney to London in 1855 to finally marry Thomas Huxley, her beau of eight years. Huxley is the scientist and educator who coined the term 'agnostic' and was a dogged supporter of Darwin. Nettie and Thomas first met after Huxley arrived in Australia on HMS *Rattlesnake*; he had been assistant surgeon on a voyage of discovery to New Guinea and Australia.

Regardless of her lifelong adventurous spirit—her descendant and biographer Martin Huxley Cooke notes that in 1912 'only the intervention of her son Harry prevented Nettie from taking a flight in the first Eastbourne air show'—she didn't turn to her own youthful Australian adventures for material for a book. Rather, two witty, charming, but otherwise unremarkable, children's books, published ten years before Ethel Turner's *Seven Little Australians* took Australia by storm, are a playful reflection of her life with Thomas.

It would be drawing a very long bow to say that this descendant of a pirate of the Caribbean (Stede Bonnet) is an Australian children's writer, but many who wrote about Australia in the early colonial years hardly set

foot on the continent, so a resident of over 11 years, from December 1843 to January 1855, has some claim.

My first introduction to Nettie was when I read her much quoted account of travelling by mail cart and bullock dray from Sydney to Jamberoo, via Wollongong, in January 1844. Her father, the peripatetic Henry Heathorn, was running Woodstock Mills—a timber and flour mill, soon also to be a brewery—in the area. Travellers to the coast could choose to follow the road from Appin and then take their chances on the various mountain passes down to Wollongong (a mail carrier on horseback drowned in 1834), or come by boat, the option chosen by Caroline Chisholm. None of the passes had any good press, except for mentions of the picturesque view.

Nettie's is one of the rare early descriptions of almost intact Illawarra rainforest. Governor Macquarie's account of his 1822 trek to this nearby, but difficult to reach, southern outpost was another, as were visual representations by a number of artists. Eugéne Von Guérard's oil painting *Cabbage Tree Forest, Amerikan Creek, 1860* is a depiction of forest such as Nettie describes and, on the left of the painting (though not on the later lithograph, held by the Library), figures scrabble up a red clay track.



TOP
Nettie Huxley (1863–1940)
opposite page 4 (detail) in
Mrs Gander's Story by Henrietta Anne Huxley
(London: MacMillan and Co., 1882)
Courtesy Kerry White

ABOVE
Portrait of Mrs Huxley
newspaper clipping from *The Daily Telegraph*, 17 August 1912,
accompanying *Pictures of Australian Life, 1843–1844* by
Henrietta Anne Huxley
Australian Rare Books Collection
nla.aus-vn4934391

IN A PREVIOUS ISSUE
Owen Stanley and the Rattlesnake
Discover more about Thomas Huxley and his voyage on the *Rattlesnake* in this article by Ann Moyal
★ June 2012
nla.gov.au/pub/nlanews/2012/jun12/owen-stanley-and-the-rattlesnake.pdf

BACKGROUND

Conrad Martens (1801–1878)
Bush Scene, Illawarra (Nettle Tree and Cabbage Palms) 1851
lithograph; 18.5 x 15 cm
Pictures Collection
nla.pic-an7695560

BELOW
Eugéne Von Guérard
(1811–1901)

Cabbage Tree Forest, American Creek, N.S.W. 1867
hand-coloured lithograph
32.5 x 51 cm
Pictures Collection
nla.pic-an7744682

Much of the forest is gone but, in places on the Illawarra escarpment which Nettie so perilously descended, it is still possible to climb among the cabbage tree palms, stinging trees, vines and red cedars (sadly, none 6 metres across, as Macquarie measured) and marvel how cattle, drays, logs, goods, not to mention a mail cart, were driven down the slippery slopes. That unsuitably dressed women managed the descent is remarkable. Nettie's mother Sarah lamented 'with tears the day she had ever left England', and Margaret Menzies, at 22, was 'quite overcome' following the stage from Appin to Wollongong in early 1839, a description of which is in a journal held by the Library.

Nettie was a city girl. Her mother, still married to Dr Richardson, had bolted with Henry Heathorn; Nettie's birthplace is only possibly Saint Helena; and the date she claims is 1 July 1825. Despite this exotic beginning, she spent most of her life before 1843 in London and at a Moravian school in Neuwied on the Rhine—the latter was not at all a common experience among English girls of the time—before emigrating to Australia.

After the confines of a voyage with Sarah and half-sister Isabella on the *General Hewitt*, she literally leapt into Australian life by swimming at Christmas on the north shore of Sydney Harbour, where the warm water 'broke into thousands of diamond-points ... What a paradise seemed this new land to me ... Mentally I floated in a heaven of delight'.

Not even the discomfort of the trek to Jamberoo changed her outlook. Henry Heathorn's mill there was a big operation, but his timing was poor. The region was badly affected by the 1840s depression, a rival mill had just set up in Dapto, and it seems the

original backers of Woodstock had run short of capital. If only Henry had thought to run dairy cattle, the eventual consistent money earner.

However, Nettie writes that she rallied her dispirited mother and sister, made over all their dresses, cut and laid carpet, papered walls, baked bread and experimented with bush fruits, and took over the dairy from the ex-convict cook who entertained her with his stories of 'visiting' houses. Given a horse by her father, she discovered she was good at riding and practised jumping over logs, laughing when she fell off. Nettie visited the relatively well-off Wauchs and the Menzies, helped out less fortunate neighbours, and was delighted by her rides to Kiama to fetch the post and view the blowhole first recorded in 1797 by George Bass.

These recollections were written years later and were published in the December 1911 issue of *The Cornhill Magazine*, just three years before she died. What Nettie writes is very warming to an Australian heart, but why did she wait so long? And why are there so few descriptions of Australia in her early writing?

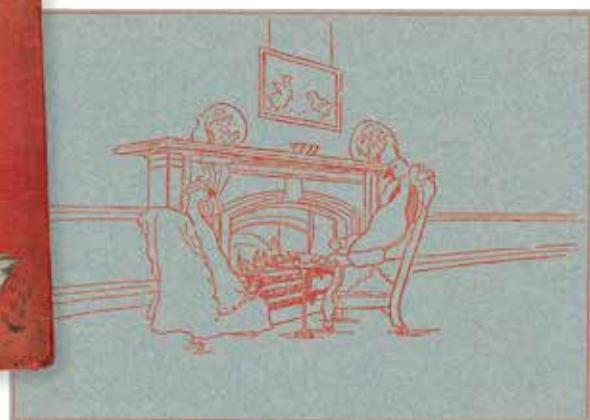
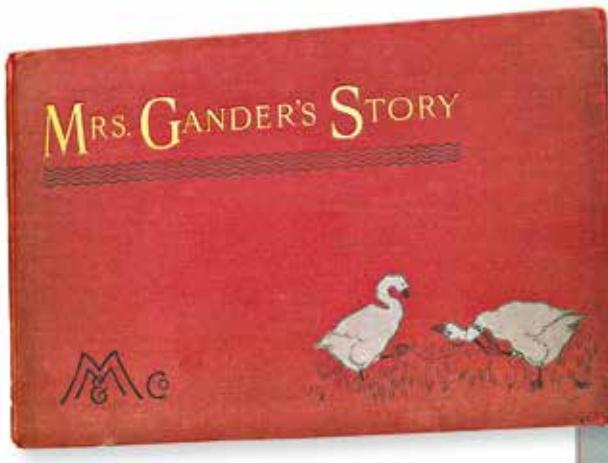
There are Australian references in her poetry, but not many. Literary critic Cecil Hadgraft somewhat grudgingly contends that 'of women who published a volume of verse in which Australia appears she was among the first to have written here. There weren't many around in 1850'.

I had high hopes for her children's books. This sturdy woman, who saw convicts in chains, rode on a bullock dray through ancient coastal rainforest, taught herself to ride a horse in dashing style, rode out to see for herself the madness of the Turon gold diggings, fended off a drunken butler at New Town (Newtown, Sydney), and dealt with a feisty snake on a bushwalk, would have had plenty of material to draw on.

But we can't mould writers to our desires. The two books, *Mrs Gander's Story* (published by Macmillan & Co. in 1882) and *My Wife's Relations: A Story of Pigland* (published by J.S. Virtue in 1884, with an American edition by Appleton & Company in 1885 and a reillustrated edition by Sadler in 1974), written almost 30 years after Nettie had returned to England, have no direct Australian content at all, but rather are packed with good-humoured family references. Both books are illustrated by N.H., Nettie's daughter—also named Nettie.

Mrs Gander's Story is an anthropomorphic tale featuring geese. It is an attractive, red cloth-bound book with the title in gilt and the





text and illustrations printed in red ink on blue paper. It is in a landscape format similar in its shape to contemporary illustrated books.

In it, Miss Snow Yellowbill visits Mrs Gander at home. Mrs Gander settles in to recount family tales apparently already well known to Miss Yellowbill, including one about the almost fatal attack on her gosling, Swallow, when the family were holidaying. The story is likely to refer to a boating incident in the 1860s, when Nettie's son Leonard noticed his younger brother Harry was in trouble.

No doubt a reference to Huxley falling in love with Nettie at the 1847 Governor's Ball in Sydney is the tale of Mr Gander and Miss Gosling at the dance of Mr and Mrs Gobbles of Grass Common:

We wound up with Sir Roger de Coverley. Mr. Gander flew down with outstretched wings to meet me. I spread mine in turn, and revolved in a stately waddle round Mr. Gander.

The tone is humorous with a tinge of malice, but it is unlikely modern editors would smile about Mrs Gander's recollection of eating pâté de foie gras at her wedding breakfast—a gruesome recurring joke! The ink illustrations of the geese are a gentle riposte to the more biting text.

A match is the eating by the Trotters of bacon for breakfast in *My Wife's Relations*. Mr and Mrs Trotter, tiring of country life, move to the city, choosing a house with a garden in Campden Hill. Dressed in special city finery, they visit the Zoological Gardens, where two pigs convince the Trotters they are their cousins, Tobias and Timothy Von Grunter, captives because of their remarkable beauty. Being simple, good and kind, the Trotters are no match for the 'vulgar' tricksters, who create havoc until all is saved by a letter the Bishop receives from South Africa, proving the pigs are imposters. Nettie writes:

Mr Trotter burnt most of the photographs in his wife's album, lest she should see some fancied likeness between them and strangers; and he advises all his friends with young families to bring them up carefully and firmly, and to remember the good old proverb—

*Spare the twig
And spoil the pig.*

'For fear,' he adds, 'they should turn out like my wife's relations.'

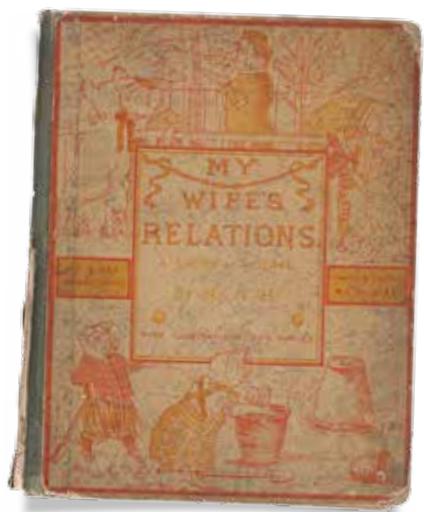
Thomas Huxley's own onerous support of several wayward and drunken close relatives and Nettie's uncertain legitimacy and piratical forebears come immediately to mind.

And there is a possible answer. With her family's, and especially her father's, colourful past, it is understandable that Nettie chose the more respectable, close-knit fabric of her life as Mrs Huxley as subject matter. Neither Nettie nor Thomas ever returned to the colony, but their time in Australia was life changing. For Thomas, it was a further jolt to an already receptive and enquiring mind; for Nettie it was a chance to enjoy physical, and perhaps social, freedoms that she would never have again. It is apparent from the 1911 reminiscences that she relished her time here. Nettie had real pioneer spirit and, thinking only of Australia's interests, it is a pity she didn't stay.

KERRY WHITE is a bibliographer and reviewer. She will be donating H.A.H.'s children's books to the Library to augment the collection of Australian children's publications which she donated in 2011

ABOVE FROM LEFT
Henrietta Anne Huxley
(1825–1914)
cover, opposite page 2 and
opposite page 4 (detail) in
Mrs Gander's Story
(London: MacMillan and Co.,
1882)
Courtesy Kerry White

BELOW
Henrietta Anne Huxley
(1825–1914)
cover of *My Wife's Relations: A Story of Pigland*
(New York: D. Appleton and Company, 1885)
Courtesy Kerry White



Finding Religion in the National Library

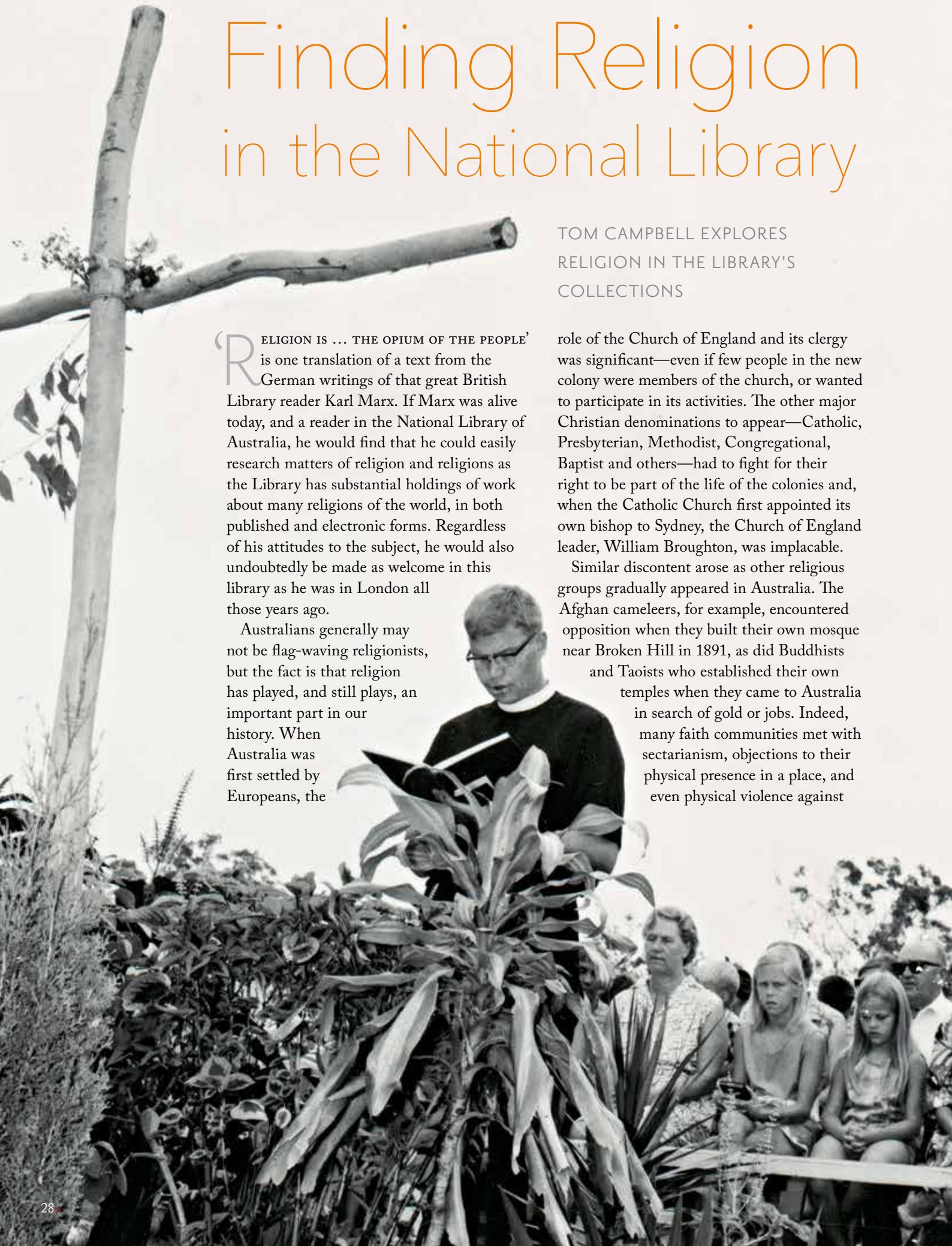
TOM CAMPBELL EXPLORES
RELIGION IN THE LIBRARY'S
COLLECTIONS

'RELIGION IS ... THE OPIUM OF THE PEOPLE' is one translation of a text from the German writings of that great British Library reader Karl Marx. If Marx was alive today, and a reader in the National Library of Australia, he would find that he could easily research matters of religion and religions as the Library has substantial holdings of work about many religions of the world, in both published and electronic forms. Regardless of his attitudes to the subject, he would also undoubtedly be made as welcome in this library as he was in London all those years ago.

Australians generally may not be flag-waving religionists, but the fact is that religion has played, and still plays, an important part in our history. When Australia was first settled by Europeans, the

role of the Church of England and its clergy was significant—even if few people in the new colony were members of the church, or wanted to participate in its activities. The other major Christian denominations to appear—Catholic, Presbyterian, Methodist, Congregational, Baptist and others—had to fight for their right to be part of the life of the colonies and, when the Catholic Church first appointed its own bishop to Sydney, the Church of England leader, William Broughton, was implacable.

Similar discontent arose as other religious groups gradually appeared in Australia. The Afghan cameleers, for example, encountered opposition when they built their own mosque near Broken Hill in 1891, as did Buddhists and Taoists who established their own temples when they came to Australia in search of gold or jobs. Indeed, many faith communities met with sectarianism, objections to their physical presence in a place, and even physical violence against



their people or buildings, when they first set up in Australia.

Even atheism was a much discussed subject from the early days of the colony. Equally, the Freemasons, though not specifically a religious community, were important within the world of commerce in Australia from their establishment in the country around 1820, in part because of the nature of their secretive membership principles and practices. They provided meeting places for like-minded men of business who could quietly assist one another in their fields.

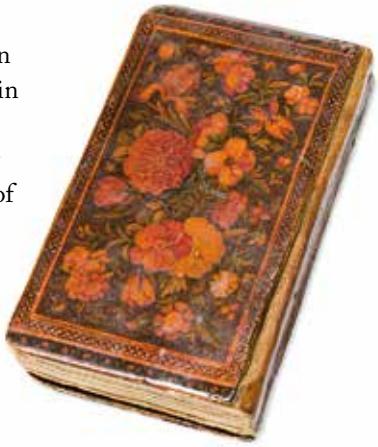
The Library holds a wealth of material for anyone wishing to research the role played by organised religions or other religious groups in the history of Australia. Its collections are not limited to major strands of the Christian religion. Provided that readers can handle the various languages of significance to each faith community, there may well be something of interest or relevance; the search term 'atheism', for instance, will produce a large list of books of potential value, as will terms such as 'Lutheranism', 'Hinduism', 'Islam' or 'Zoroastrianism'.

A significant example is material relating to the establishment of the Australian Catholic Church. The official decisions made by the Pope between 1622 and 1903, concerning the creation of dioceses and many other matters in the missionary countries of the world (including Australia), will be found in eight volumes entitled *Iuris Pontificii de Propaganda Fide*. All the relevant documents are there, in full detail—not, as one might expect, hidden away in a Vatican archive. The establishment of the Sydney diocese and the appointment of the first bishop (John Bede Polding) in 1834 can be found in Volume 5. The creation of the diocese of Sydney was the first time the Vatican acted unilaterally and independently to set up dioceses in British colonies. So

successful did the Vatican regard its work in Australia that it did the same for England in 1850, building a new Catholic structure to replace one that had been destroyed during the Reformation 300 years before. Copies of all the relevant decisions are in Volume 6.

For those interested in how the Vatican behaved during the Second World War in relation to the treatment of the peoples of nations invaded by Nazi Germany, and the Jewish peoples specifically, the 11 volumes of *Actes et documents du Saint Siège relatifs à la Seconde Guerre mondiale*, held by the Library, provide some insights. They contain correspondence exchanged during those years between the Vatican and its significant *Nuncios* (the Vatican's name for its Ambassadors). Make sure your German, Italian, French and Latin language skills are up to the mark. The Library has an English translation of the first volume in its holdings, under the title *Records and Documents of the Holy See Relating to the Second World War*.

Across the broad subject area of 'religion', the Library also holds a wide range of historical and contemporary items in the form of microfilm copies of rare material held in overseas collections. It also gives readers online access to an even broader range of historic documents. For example, a catalogue search for *The Key of Heaven* (also known as *The Posey of Prayers*)—a prayer book owned by many Catholic families which dates back to about 1766 and was last printed at the beginning of the Second World War—leads you to electronic versions of copies held in the United Kingdom and United States. Insert the title of your own traditional prayer book and you might well be surprised at its antiquity, and by the similarity of its different versions over time. Equally, a search for *The Book of Common Prayer* will provide many versions—



OPPOSITE
Pastor of Finnish Lutheran Church Conducts a Service at Kurittu Homestead near Brisbane 1960s
b&w photograph; 9 x 9 cm
Pictures Collection
nla.pic-vn4591148
Courtesy Australian News and Information Bureau

THIS PAGE, CLOCKWISE FROM ABOVE
Qur'an, Persia c. 1850–1899
handwritten and bound in lacquer covers with colour illustrations; 16 cm
Manuscripts Collection, MS 4949
nla.gov.au/nla.cat-vn1353234

Book of Hours c. 1400
in Clifford Collection of Manuscripts Mainly Relating to Roman Catholicism,
c. 1250–1915
Manuscripts Collection, MS 1097
nla.ms-ms1097

Amelia C. Rusden
Roman Catholic Chapel, Sydney, July, 1834
watercolour; 25.5 x 39.5 cm
Pictures Collection
nla.pic-an4857980

Henry Samuel Sadd
(engraver, c. 1811–c. 1893)
The Most Reverend John Bede Polding O.S.B., First Archbishop of Sydney
mezzotint; 32.2 x 25.5 cm
Pictures Collection
nla.pic-an9997459





ABOVE
Robin Vaughan Francis Smith
(b. 1927)
*Interior of Moslem Mosque,
Broken Hill, New South
Wales 1977*
colour transparency
6 x 6.1 cm
Pictures Collection
nla.pic-vn4236219

BETWEEN
Rodney Dekker (b. 1974)
*Melbourne's Hindu
Community in Attendance
for the Kumbhabhishekam, a
Purification Ceremony, Held
at the Hindu Temple, Carrum
Downs, Victoria, April 2007*
colour photograph
31.3 x 47 cm
Pictures Collection
nla.pic-vn4318920

including the sixth, now in common use—which may be viewed online.

Two significant collections supported by the Library are also worth a serious look. They cover a wide range of subjects, including religious matters, and consist of microfilmed copies of personal papers, handwritten documents, diaries, and business and church records. One is the Australian Joint Copying Project (AJCP). This

is a joint venture between the National Library and the State Library of New South Wales to microfilm records, principally of Australian and Pacific interest, held in public repositories, and in institutional and private collections in the United Kingdom. The microfilms are readily available in the Newspapers and Microforms Reading Room. The second major collection comprises archives, manuscripts and rare printed material relating to the Pacific Islands which has been, and continues to be, filmed by the Pacific Manuscripts Bureau, an arm of the Australian National University. The breadth of that collection is also huge: just look at the online catalogue on the Australian National University's website, at <http://asiapacific.anu.edu.au/pambu/>. These two collections embrace a great amount of religious history in this part of the world, and are accessible at the Library.

We all know that the quality of published material on any subject can vary greatly. Religious history is no exception. For example, some historical accounts—such as those produced by individual church communities to celebrate some major milestone in their history—can be too celebratory, a result of

having been assembled by the willing, and not necessarily by people who might be more rigorous in selection and interpretation of content. Equally, town or city histories, reliant as they probably are on enthusiastic contributions from

each of the faith communities in their area of interest, may sometimes contain information of doubtful quality. The simple principle in reading such helpful works is to welcome the contributions that have been published, and check the facts that have been revealed.

Finding useful material about non-Christian communities can be more difficult, simply because some of those communities may be in very small numbers in Australia. Changes are occurring, however, so that useful data is finally appearing.

Another problem can be finding useful historical material about the ‘ordinary’ members of any religious stream, especially women. The acknowledged movers and shakers, or the notorious, are often the only ones whose names make it to the headlines—and most of them are male. Yet researchers know that women are, and have long been, important behind-the-scenes players in many faith communities: the hardworking people who frequently make things happen. Finding books, articles or useful reference material about such significant people can be difficult, but the Library’s catalogue is, again, a useful starting point. All possibilities should be explored. A simple example is an Anglican religious sisterhood that first came from England to Australia in 1891, frequently known by the familiar title ‘the Kilburn Sisters’. Identifying and then using the correct name of the sisterhood, ‘The Community of the Sisters of the Church’, to find relevant materials, I was able to produce a major work on the histories of all Anglican religious communities in this part of the world (*Religious Communities of the Anglican Communion, Australia, New Zealand and the South Pacific*, published in 2007), and several journal articles.

The National Library warmly welcomes researchers of all kinds and backgrounds interested in many fields of endeavour. Religious history is one of them. Inquisitive readers will be amazed at how much they may find in its collections. The great joy is that research can be done from the comfort of home, simply by logging on to the Library’s website. Why not look at the religious history of your own Australian city, town or village, or faith community?



TOM CAMPBELL is a Petherick Reader

BOOKINGS ARE REQUIRED FOR ALL EVENTS, EXCEPT FILMS: 02 6262 1698 or friends@nla.gov.au

Each year, the Friends offer two significant awards to those working with, or supporting, the National Library. The aim of these is to assist the ongoing work of Library staff and to acknowledge outstanding achievement.

The first award is the annual Friends Medal. It is awarded to a Friend, a volunteer, or a Library staff member for a significant contribution to the Library.

Our most recent recipient is Elizabeth Kennedy, who received the medal at the Friends Annual General Meeting in November 2013. Elizabeth has contributed significantly to the work of the Library over many years, both as a volunteer and as a member of the Friends Committee. She has generously given her time as a volunteer at the Library since 2006, working variously as an exhibition guide and as a behind-the-scenes guide. Elizabeth was a valuable member of the Friends Committee in 2008 (Deputy Chair), 2009 (Deputy Chair), 2010 (Chair), 2012 and 2013.

The second award offered by the Friends is the Friends Travelling Fellowship. The aim of this \$12,000 fellowship is to provide a Library staff member with a significant professional development opportunity.

The recipient of the 2013 Travelling Fellowship is Kate Ross, Image Content Coordinator from the Publications and Events Branch of the Library. This fellowship enables Kathryn to travel to Te Papa Tongarewa; Pitt Rivers Museum, University of Oxford; Museum Volkenkunde; and Musée du Quai Branly, where she will explore developments in cataloguing and providing access to historic indigenous photographic collections, onsite and online.

SARAH JAENSCH
Executive Officer

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Launch of *An Eye for Nature: The Life and Art of William T. Cooper*

Author Penny Olsen is joined by William Cooper for the launch of this new biography. Tracing Cooper's life and work, the book documents his fruitful partnership with wife and collaborator Wendy Cooper, and his extensive travels in Australia and abroad in pursuit of his subjects.

THURSDAY 27 MARCH

- 6 PM, CONFERENCE ROOM
- \$10 FRIENDS/\$15 NON-MEMBERS
(INCLUDES REFRESHMENTS)

Digitisation of the 1975 Editions of *The Canberra Times*

To celebrate the Friends donation to digitise the 1975 editions of *The Canberra Times*, join former Editor, Ian Mathews, and current Editor-at-Large, Jack Waterford, as they discuss their memories of working at the newspaper in 1975.

SATURDAY 12 APRIL • 2 PM, CONFERENCE ROOM • \$10 FRIENDS/\$15 NON-MEMBERS
(INCLUDES REFRESHMENTS)

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- invitations to Friends-only events
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THANKS TO OUR VALUED PARTNERS FOR MAKING MAPPING OUR WORLD A SUCCESS

On display at the Library until 10 March, *Mapping Our World: Terra Incognita to Australia* offers Australian audiences a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to see rare and unique cartographic treasures from around the world.

Highlights of the exhibition include the magnificent *Fra Mauro Map of the World*; the remarkable *Boke of Idrography* presented to Henry VIII; an intricate world map by the Benedictine monk Andreas Walsperger (1448); a fifteenth-century Ptolemy manuscript; magnificent and controversial 'Dieppe' charts; one of only four surviving copies of Mercator's groundbreaking 1569 projection; and



Lannon Harley
Russell Crowe at the Opening of *Mapping Our World*, 6 November 2013

original manuscript charts by Pacific navigators including Louis de Freycinet, James Cook and Matthew Flinders.

The Library would like to thank the British Library, the Bibliothèque nationale de France, the Biblioteca Nazionale Marciana, the Vatican Library and The National Archives of the United Kingdom for their partnership in this extraordinary exhibition, as well as the many public and private collections throughout Australia for kindly lending items.

Mapping Our World would not have been possible without the generosity and enthusiasm of our exhibition partners. We would like to thank all our partners, including Shell Australia (Principal Partner); Australian Capital Equity, Esri Australia, Planet Wheeler Foundation, Channel 7 and Crowne Plaza Canberra (Major Partners). Thanks also to our generous supporters, including Kevin McCann AM and Deidre McCann; Macquarie Group Foundation; Origin Foundation; and Toga Hotels. We were delighted to be able to partner once again with Etihad Airways, alongside airline Virgin Australia, to bring the many valuable exhibition items to Canberra. The Library would also like to acknowledge the generous funding provided by the Australian Government through the Australian Government International Exhibitions Insurance Program and the National Collecting Institutions

Touring and Outreach Program, and by the ACT Government through Australian Capital Tourism Special Event Funding. Special thanks to Esri Australia for their interactive software and multimedia which provided innovative analysis of many of the maps on display.

The generous support provided by Kerry Stokes AC, Nigel and Patricia Peck, Noel Dan AM and Adrienne Dan, Douglas and Belinda Snedden and the Embassy of Italy in Canberra has enabled us to bring one of the most important and famous maps of all time, the *Fra Mauro Map of the World*, to Canberra as the centrepiece of the exhibition. The Library would also like to thank the ambassador and staff of the Embassy of France and the ambassador and staff of the Embassy of Italy for their support of our events program.

Thank you to all our valued *Mapping Our World* partners for your support in bringing this exhibition to Australian audiences. We very much appreciate your contribution and involvement.

DIGITISATION OF THE CANBERRA TIMES COMPLETE

Thank you to our generous Patrons, Friends, volunteers and supporters who contributed to last year's appeal for The National Library of Australia Fund. In 2013, the Library offered you a choice of supporting digitisation of *The Canberra Times* or conserving and digitising the Library's collections.

We are delighted to announce that over \$128,000 was raised for the fund, with 61 per cent going towards the digitisation of 40 years of in-copyright issues of *The Canberra Times* (1955–1995). To celebrate Canberra's centenary year, issues of the newspaper from 1926 to 1995 are now available online via Trove.

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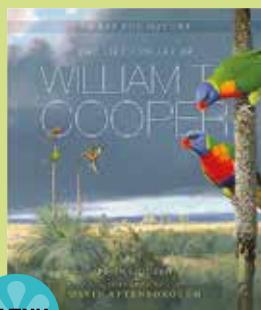


MAJOR PARTNERS



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NEW

AN EYE FOR NATURE: THE LIFE AND ART OF WILLIAM T. COOPER

By Penny Olsen

Foreword by David Attenborough

In the work of artist William T. Cooper, platypuses swim in green underwater worlds, waves throw up blankets of spray, embers glow in the aftermath of a bushfire, a Thylacine emerges from the shadows, sniffing the air. But it is his paintings of birds which set Cooper apart—his raucous cockatoos, colourful parrots, animated turacos and flamboyantly displaying birds of paradise.

In this biography, Penny Olsen traces the path of Cooper's life and art—from his childhood spent in the bush, to his teenage years as an apprentice taxidermist at Carey Bay Zoo and, later, to his work as a window dresser and landscape artist. Olsen's commentary reveals the development of an artist and the trajectory of a life, while extracts from Cooper's extensive field notebooks give an insight into his interests and processes.

ISBN 978-0-642-27846-3 | 2014, hb, 284 x 233 mm, 288 pp
RRP \$49.99



NEW

THE AUSTRALIAN WOMEN'S WEEKLY FASHION: THE FIRST 50 YEARS

*By Deborah Thomas with
Kirstie Clements*

From the elegant outfits of the 1930s to the Hollywood-inspired evening gowns of the 1950s, from the psychedelic patterns and micro-minis of the 1960s to the bold and bohemian styles of the 1970s, this book charts the evolution

of Australian fashion through the pages of national icon *The Australian Women's Weekly*.

This trip through *The Weekly's* first 50 years reveals how the evolution of fashion in Australia was also a reflection of changing times. Featuring beautiful illustrations from the magazine on every page, this book is for anyone who loves fashion.

ISBN 978-0-642-27847-0 | 2014, hb, 275 x 220 mm, 152 pp
RRP \$34.99



NEW

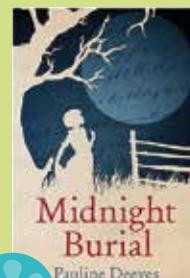
SEEN BUT NOT HEARD: LILIAN MEDLAND'S BIRDS

By Christobel Mattingley

Until now, Lilian Medland has not received the recognition she deserves as a painter of birds. Due to world events and circumstances, five important books on birds containing her superb illustrations

were never published. Despite such major disappointments, she continued to devote her time and talent to painting, first the birds of the British Isles and, later, those of Australia, her adopted country, where she died in 1955. *Seen but Not Heard* is the first publication to shine a light on the life and work of this much-overlooked but brilliant Australian natural history artist. Includes spectacular full-colour plates of Medland's Australian birds from the collection of the National Library.

ISBN 978-0-642-27792-3 | 2014, pb, 280 x 215 mm, 208 pp
RRP \$39.99



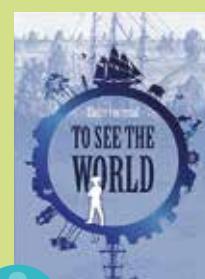
NEW

MIDNIGHT BURIAL

By Pauline Deerves
Florence is confused. Her family says that her older sister Lizzie died of fever and should be buried immediately. No doctor is called, no clergyman is present and no neighbours are asked to come. The burial happens at night.

After Lizzie's death, the atmosphere in Florence's home changes. People are grieving, but there is much gossip. No one visits Lizzie's grave. The arrival of her new governess, Susannah, a friend of Lizzie's, adds to the tension. Susannah does not believe that Lizzie died of fever. With Susannah, Florence sets out to discover the true story of what has happened to her sister. For ages 8 to 12.

ISBN 978-0-642-27850-0 | 2014, pb, 198 x 129 mm, 80 pp
RRP \$14.99 | ISBN (ebook) 978-0-642-27867-8



NEW

TO SEE THE WORLD

By Elaine Forrestal
All his life, José has seen the tall ships sailing into Port Louis on the island of Mauritius, where he was born. As he watches them leave again, disappearing below the horizon, he dreams of one day sailing away with them—to see the world. He thinks about all the adventures he would have, the ships he would capture and the buried treasure he would find on faraway islands.

But when the young and beautiful Rose de Freycinet arrives on board the *Uranie* in 1817, José's life changes in ways that he had never imagined. Pirates, cannibals, storms and shipwrecks become harsh realities and José is forced to muster all his courage and intelligence to survive the dangers of shipboard life.

To See the World is a fictionalised account of the journey of the *Uranie*, commanded by Louis de Freycinet, in the early eighteenth century. It is told through the eyes of a Mauritian who was a cabin boy on the ship. For ages 8 to 12.

ISBN 978-0-642-27849-4 | 2014, pb, 198 x 129 mm, 204 pp
RRP \$17.99 | ISBN (ebook) 978-0-642-27866-1

ON THE COVER



Cover of *The Australian Women's Weekly*, 2 March 1935

APPEARING ON THE COVER OF *The Australian Women's Weekly* in 1935, this illustration features the curled hair, strongly drawn eyebrows and dramatic false eyelashes that were all the rage in 1930s Australia—the decade when movie-star glamour replaced the boyish flapper look of the 1920s.

Launched in 1933, *The Weekly* was revolutionary for its time: a publication specifically for women, combining fashion, domestic concerns and current affairs. Over its 80-year history, its pages have reflected social trends, charting Australian women's changing roles and status.

Find out more about *The Australian Women's Weekly* on page 2.