

HERITAGE

LINKING THE PAST WITH THE PRESENT— FOR THE FUTURE

The Quarterly
Journal of the
Australian Heritage
Society

No. 19
DEC 80 — FEB 81



HRH Princess Alexandra waves to Perth school children during her visit to Australia in October. The Royal visitor is accompanied by Perth Lord Mayor, Mr. Chaney.

Christmas Greetings

May the real spirit of
Christmas be in the hearts of
our readers over the coming
festive and holy season.

The Australian Heritage Society

Brief History

The Australian Heritage Society was launched in Melbourne on September 18th 1971 at an Australian League of Rights Seminar. It was clear that Australia's heritage is under increasing attack from all sides; spiritual, cultural, political and constitutional. A permanent body was required to ensure that young Australians were not cut off from their true heritage and the Heritage Society assumed that role in a number of ways.

The Society has promoted a wide range of educational activities including lectures to schools. Over one million copies of three brochures have been distributed. They are "Keep Our Flag Flying" in support of retaining Australia's present flag; "Crown or Republic", the case against an Australian republic; "The Federal Constitution and Individual Freedom" discussing the essential basic freedoms enjoyed under our Constitution.

When Her Majesty the Queen visited Australia in 1973, The Heritage Society inserted a full-page loyal welcome in the Canberra and Sydney press. This move resulted in a flood of new support which paved way for further activities.

In order to provide Australians with an opportunity to have a direct say concerning their heritage, the Society inserted "voting" forms in the press throughout Australia. Over 35,000 forms were returned with 90% voting to retain the Monarchy, the present flag and National Anthem.

When the Australian political crisis developed late in 1975, the Heritage Society gave another lead by inserting press advertisements inviting Australians to use their constitutional right to petition the Queen's representative, Sir John Kerr, for a double-dissolution of the Commonwealth Parliament so that people could vote to resolve the crisis. This campaign had just started to gather momentum when the Governor-General made his historical decision on November 11th 1975.

The Heritage Society immediately lead a nation-wide campaign in defence of Sir John Kerr. Once again, press advertisements brought instant response from people of all political persuasions resulting in the distribution of well over one million "Defend Sir John Kerr" brochures.

It was about this time that the Heritage Society, due to expanding activity embarked upon a major publishing venture. The quarterly Journal "Heritage" was first published in June 1976. In its short life this journal has been increased in size and content on two occasions. Subscriptions continue to increase with each issue. Distinguished Australians contribute material on important heritage issues as well as historical features. This journal continues to be a vital link between the Heritage Society and its supporters.

The Queen's Australian visit early in 1977 saw even greater activity by the Heritage Society. Firstly, a special jubilee edition of "Heritage" was printed and it contained many avenues for Australians to express their loyalty, including car stickers and flags. Three editions of this popular issue had to be printed to meet the demand.

The most successful idea was the printing and distribution of thousands of "Loyalty Pledges" which loyal Australians were asked to sign. This idea was so popular that over 50,000 signatures poured into Heritage Society offices over a short period. The signed pledges were then despatched to the Governor-General for submission to the Queen.

Late in 1977 another publishing venture took place. A complete record of the Queen's Christmas messages and silver jubilee speech was produced in book form by the Heritage Society. Titled "A Queen Speaks to Her People" this publication was so well received throughout Australia that a second edition was required within less than three months. A permanent demand is expected for this historical publication.

The Australian Heritage Society welcomes people of all ages to join in its programme for the regeneration of the spirit of Australia. To value the great spiritual realities that we have come to know and respect through our heritage, the virtues of patriotism, of integrity and love of truth, the pursuit of goodness and beauty, an unselfish concern for other people – to maintain a love and loyalty for those values.

Young Australians have a very real challenge before them. The Australian Heritage Society, with your support can give them the necessary lead in building a better Australia.

"Our heritage today is the fragments gleaned from past ages; the heritage of tomorrow – good or bad – will be determined by our actions today."

SIR RAPHAEL CILENTO
First Patron of The Australian Heritage Society

PRINCIPAL ADDRESS

BOX 16, INGLEWOOD, W.A. 6052

STATE ADDRESSES

BOX 1052J, MELBOURNE, VICTORIA 3001

BOX 179, PLYMPTON, SOUTH AUSTRALIA 5038

BOX 2957, SYDNEY, NEW SOUTH WALES 2001

BOX 172, CHERMSIDE, QUEENSLAND 4032

THE SENATE - A PRECIOUS INHERITANCE

One of the most valuable legacies of Australia's political heritage must surely be the Senate. The Senate maintains a check on the powers of government and this is why all major political parties in Australia have attempted to weaken its powers. After the 1980 federal elections it appears that the Senate holds the key to better political representation for both the States and the People of Australia.

The new Fraser Government holds 32 of the 64 Senate positions with the remainder shared between the other parties and independents. Because the Senate is a most effective Upper House of Review, acting as a check on government, Prime Minister Fraser will need to tread very carefully for fear of having to face the polls before 2 years have passed.

Australians should be grateful that they have inherited a Senate which is perhaps one of the most effective in the world. Senators are elected primarily as representatives for their STATES, not for their party. If this concept can be strengthened, restoring a genuine voice to the electorate, then better government will be achieved. Through their Senate, the people of Australia can let the government know that all proposals for legislation will be carefully checked and scrutinised — and rejected if it is in the interests of Australia to do so!

Our readers are well advised to keep a closer watch on the activities of the Senate and its Senators. In this edition we present a special article which deals at length with ways you can use your M.P. more effectively. We sincerely trust our readers will put the information to good use.

ENCOURAGING RESPONSE TO SPECIAL WOOL FEATURE

Barbara Treloar's special feature on the history and development of the Merino in Australia was well received judging by correspondence. Several suggestions have been made for future editions. Any reader who wishes to contribute a feature article or can assist in the production of an article, is asked to contact the editor.

CIRCULATING "HERITAGE" BROCHURES

We remind readers to help the circulation of HERITAGE by distributing our special Heritage Society brochures where possible. We know these brochures get results if distributed in the right quarters, so how about setting aside some time over the Christmas break to help boost Heritage Society and its activities.

PLEASE NOTE ADDRESSES

In order to facilitate the processing of "Heritage" all editorial correspondence should be addressed as shown below.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR
NEWS ITEMS
STORIES AND ARTICLES
BOX 112, MAYLANDS
WESTERN AUSTRALIA 6051

SUBSCRIPTION ENQUIRIES
PAYMENTS
BOOK ORDERS

BOX 16, INGLEWOOD,
WESTERN AUSTRALIA 6052

Contributions

ARTICLES and other contributions, together with suggestions for suitable material for "Heritage", will be welcomed by the Editor. However, those requiring unused material to be returned, must enclose a stamped and addressed envelope.

ALL correspondence should be addressed to:—

The Editor, "Heritage",
Box 112, Maylands,
Western Australia 6051

“CHRISTMAS IS A TIME FOR _____”

by The Revd. David Thorp, M.B.E. of Western Australia

A good many years ago I remember travelling on a crowded bus. It was Christmas Eve. A lady got on the bus clutching a number of parcels. She had apparently been doing her last minute Christmas shopping. Starting up a rather one-sided conversation, she launched off into a tirade about the crowded shops, the curt shop assistants and the high cost of Christmas. Her comments were sounded off with the conclusion “thank God Christmas only comes around once a year.”

At that point the bus conductor had reached my fellow passenger and interjected with the demand, “fares please”. He must have overheard what the lady had been saying, because he added, perhaps by way of consolation, “never mind luv, Christmas is a time for the children”. At that the expression the lady had been wearing on her face changed quite perceptibly. She fell silent.

Silence is often a blessed attribute. It gives us the opportunity to think. On that occasion, while completing my journey on the bus, I was able to ask myself, “how would I complete the sentence, “Christmas is a time for . . .”?

The sentence could be completed by different people in many ways. Sadly, some people would say Christmas is a time for parties, for flirtations that at other times they would not dare to risk, for drinking without thought of the consequences, for over-eating, for buying themselves presents, for entering into financial contracts that they will try to cope with in January, or perhaps February – anyway, next year!

The result of any of these activities, or similar ones, is invariably Post Christmas Blues, or January depression. The symptom of a lost soul, a lost society.

THE GUEST OF HONOUR AT CHRISTMAS

But the One whose Birthday Christians celebrate on 25th December, is the One who came to save the lost. In fact all, who would put their faith and trust in Him. He is the One, who said of Himself “I came that they may have life, and may have it abundantly.”

Does this mean that we should have no parties at Christmas, no jollifications? Certainly not, but (and it is a big BUT), we should remember that He is the unseen Guest at every party, at every celebration. He is in fact the Guest of Honour and that being the case, we must remember Who He is, and what His Character, Nature and Teaching is. To ignore such

things is at the very least, a gross discourtesy to the Guest of Honour.

Who Jesus Christ is, His Character, Nature and Teaching, is knowledge available to us all, if we have the desire and the will to know. It has all been written down for us in the Christian Gospels, which include the promise “seek and ye shall find.”

When we begin to find the answers relating to the One whose birthday is kept on 25th December and remembered, celebrated by many millions of the world’s population, and millions more, who have gone before us on the Great Journey, which one day we too must undertake, then we will find that the only way we can complete the sentence “Christmas is a time for . . .”, is by adding the word, “Worship”.

Christians do not all worship in exactly the same way. Never mind about that, Christmas is not the time for such anxiety, just so long as your worship is a sincere expression of your love, devotion and obedience to Jesus Christ as Lord.

CHRISTMAS IS A TIME FOR LOVE

Once we have come to act on the basis that Christmas is a time for worship, we shall realise that Christmas is also a time for unselfish love, for giving, not only to our kith and kin, but also to the poor, the lonely, the homeless, the hungry and the helpless. For they too share our humanity, as children of the same Creator, the God whom we know through Jesus Christ. Is that rather a “tall order”? Do not be daunted by it, must make sure you fulfill your part in carrying it out. Christians know that Jesus Christ has left us the Holy Spirit to guide our actions.

Dear reader, if you have some thus far with me, may I wish you a Happy and a Holy Christmas and the knowledge that happiness and holiness are indivisible. Not only on 25th December, but for three hundred and sixty-five days of the year.

God bless you.

What can YOU do for . . .

“HERITAGE” IN THE 80’s

The editor welcomes participation from readers in the selection and presentation of suitable material for HERITAGE.

Those readers who feel capable of writing special feature articles are asked to contact the editor with information about their particular topic of interest.

OBTAINING MATERIAL FOR PUBLICATION

The subjects which can be covered in HERITAGE are almost endless. Over the years we have received many suggestions about the type of articles we should be publishing.

We readily agree with these suggestions and have made every effort to encourage the appropriate writers. But like all organisations which rely on voluntary contributions from its supporters, we can go no further than invite individuals to contribute written articles to HERITAGE.

READER PARTICIPATION

However, we have received encouraging signs from certain readers who have offered to act as “scouts” for HERITAGE. This concept of reader participation opens new horizons for future editions. All that is required is for readers to give thought to their own family, friends, business and club associates, etc. as a possible source of new and original material for HERITAGE.

For instance, you may have a friend who takes a keen interest in the education system and is concerned at the drop in teaching standards. Why not invite them to write a special article for HERITAGE and express their views and ideas?

Other readers may have a love of old aircraft and be active in their collection and restoration. Australia’s aviation history contains numerous stories of heroic epics, tragedies and achievements of world-headline proportions. Are young Australians to be denied the opportunity of reading about it?

HOME-MADE IS BEST

What about all of Mum’s old recipes which have collected dust since the advent of tins and instant foods? There is a growing awareness the world over that a return to a more healthy diet is a prerequisite to building children into healthy adults.

Health foods are nothing new! Grandma probably knew more about health and nutrition than some modern doctors, but many of her remedies were passed off as quaint “old wive’s tales”. So let’s hear

from some of our more food conscious readers who would like to pass on the benefit of their culinary experience.

The field of topics is endless. What we need is that more readers scout for original material. All it takes is a simple letter to the prospect accompanied by a sample copy of HERITAGE and a Heritage Society brochure.

Here is a list of suggestions for consideration. All would be ideal HERITAGE topics.

1. Australians I have met.
2. Australia’s architectural heritage.
3. Great Australian engineering achievements.
4. Famous Australian churches.
5. Our rural railway history.
6. Australia heroes.
7. Forgotten Australian publications.
8. The growth of Australian cities.
9. Famous Clubs in Australia.
10. Characters from Australian poets.
11. Australian country characters.
12. Old pictures of Australia and its people.
13. Do you remember when . . . ?
14. Australian theatre and film.
15. Australian customs and their origins.

DON’T FORGET OUR YOUTH

In a world where younger members of society are growing up amid tremendous pressures, there is a need for them to express their views about the world in which they live. So don’t neglect to ask the younger generation to make a contribution to HERITAGE. Of course, you may be able to offer them valuable guidance and study material, not to mention a few topic suggestions.

The existence of HERITAGE is based around the words, “LINKING THE PAST WITH THE PRESENT — FOR THE FUTURE”.

Of itself, subscribing to HERITAGE, does not guarantee a better present or future. It is the hope of the Heritage Society, that HERITAGE will be a source of encouragement for those who wish to take part in the re-building of the great Australian spirit — a spirit which has taken quite a battering over the years — a spirit borne of faith, hope and dedication.

HERITAGE must be a journal for both the young and old Australians. It must seek to educate, inform, entertain and record all aspects of Australia’s essential heritage.

With the enthusiastic support of our members and supporters the Australian Heritage Society is confident that its growth and effectiveness is assured as we move into the 80’s.

HERITAGE is our most significant and successful venture yet. May we rely on YOUR help to further improve this publication and keep the flag flying? God bless you in your efforts.

EDITORIAL ADDRESS
BOX 112, MAYLANDS, W.A. 6051

THE AUSTRALIAN LANGUAGE REFORM FOUNDATION



Dulcie Willacy

by Dulcie Willacy

Editor of "Ladies Line."

A look at why more students are leaving school unable to read, write or spell.

If we were to embark on the task of compiling a list of all that goes to make up our priceless Heritage, where would we commence? Where would we end?

No one person would ever have the time or the knowledge to itemise all those things, tangible and intangible, visible and invisible that have accumulated over the centuries to make up that Heritage. Imagine a vast national storehouse filled to capacity with the material legacies. Think then of the gifts made to us by generations past of the spiritual and unseen bequests. These are the inheritances that have so enriched our society and given us an outlook elevated far above that of primitive peoples.

Much has been preserved for us in the form of the written word. That we might understand, enjoy and add to that part of our the ability to express our thoughts in speech and writing has been developed by previous generations of our ancestors. To surrender this part of our Heritage is to step back into the jungle of ignorance from which our civilisation took hundreds of years to emerge.

In recent years the fact that many school students were unable to read fluently, write legibly and spell correctly, or even consult a dictionary, slowly but surely became evident to bewildered parents and teachers of upper grades. Those parents who regard the education of their children as a matter of personal responsibility began to seek the cause of this decline in language skills. By the large the teachers remained silent, an instance of professional "face saving", perhaps.

In their search, parents came to see that children were attending school for longer periods than most of them did a generation ago. Increasing amounts of tax revenue were being spent on sophisticated teaching aids and electrical equipment to replace personal effort and instruction. Yet more and more students were leaving school unable to read, write and spell well.

THE EXPERIENCE OF ONE PARENT

One such parent who set out to find the cause in the most practical way possible, was Mrs. Constance Thomas of Atherton, Queensland. She began teaching her own children and helping others. She discovered the cause and the solution.

Mrs. Thomas soon realised that children could not read because they had never been taught to do so by a method that was based on

reality. From Teachers' Training College were graduating young men and women who had never been taught to use methods that gave children an introduction to the Language Arts that could be grasped quickly and applied for the rest of their lives.

From that beginning emerged the Australian Language Reform Foundation. This did not happen overnight. For a number of years Mrs. Thomas travelled in the eastern states of Australia, at her own expense, addressing meetings in an attempt to alert parents to persuade them to take effective action. Mrs. Thomas also went overseas to attend lectures on the subject of teaching children to read. She is a well qualified and gifted teacher. She is also a woman possessed of courage and dignified determination. When she started her campaign to give young Australian students an understanding and appreciation of the English

language, she met with the usual rudeness from "progressive" academics, whose behaviour no longer suggests that the terms "scholar" and "gentleman" are synonymous. She was supported by a handful of people who knew that her method of teaching children to speak, read and write worked, and by her own indomitable spirit. As with all voluntary organisations the A.L.R.F. suffered from a shortage of financial assistance. As Con Thomas proved at the various schools she conducted that her methods were effective people began to make donations towards her work.

Readers of this article will be wondering by what method Mrs. Thomas is succeeding in teaching children to read, when other methods in use in primary schools

of the students ranged from six years to eighteen. Mothers, grandmothers, interested helpers and one grandfather attended. That was in January 1980. A special evening session for teachers proved very successful.

Some of the students were obviously embarrassed about their low standard of reading and spelling. That is, until it was explained to them that they were victims of a system that had not worked. Through no fault of their own were they suffering from such a terrible disadvantage. These young people were bright intelligent boys and girls, very capable and efficient in such areas as mechanics, agricultural pursuits, music and other skills. They just could not read fluently nor spell, because they had never been taught to use

orise the small per centage of words that appear to be irregular. We cannot expect to go through life without having to meet challenges along the way. Students should be encouraged to rise to the occasion and master these words, just as past generations of students have done.

Understandably, some of the older students were reluctant to take part in the lessons for fear of being humiliated in front of strangers. At the end of one short week all that had changed. They were eager to participate. The improvement was amazing.

From these schools are emerging volunteers who are tutoring students privately. The parents of these children all tell of similar experiences; the expensive "run around" given to them by education departments; hundreds of

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ

and at remedial centres are failing. There is nothing new about the method. It has been used successfully in the past. It is as old as the alphabet employed to put the English and other languages down on paper. It is the intensive phonics method. In actual fact, it is just one more example of the difference between reality and "airy fairy" theory.

Those of us who scarcely remember when we could not read who are capable of reading anything written in the English language placed before us find it difficult to believe that there are eighteen-year-old students who cannot spell the simple word "STRING".

It is not possible for one woman to help every Australian student who is having difficulty with the language arts. Con Thomas, therefore, has been conducting schools to show literate adults how they can help others. One such school was held at Chinchilla, a western Queensland town, where a business man and his wife undertook the organisation of the school and supplied the accommodation. The attendance was excellent. The ages

the tools of trade necessary to develop those skills.

To hold the interest of a class of students with such variations in ages is no simple matter. This is where Mrs. Thomas's vocation became apparent. She has the gift of natural dignity and the ability to exert firm discipline which obtains the best results and insists on high standards of behaviour.

As an introduction, it was explained to the students how the voice is produced; how different sounds are made vocally. From there they were given an understanding of how each letter of the alphabet and combinations of letters represent sounds. Some of the students said that was the first time they had been told those facts. Some had never heard the word "consonant".

As the school progressed the so-called irregularities of the English language were discussed. It was demonstrated that these words follow a pattern and that there is a reason for the way they are spelt.

Man was created with a memory to which certain facts may be committed. It should not be beyond the ability of ordinary people to mem-

miles travelled to remedial classes that failed because the intensive phonics method was not used. It would appear that the remedial business, with tax funded employees, has become an end in itself.

USING OUR SYMBOLS

The symbols used to write the English language are not hieroglyphics. English is not a picture language. We are not required, as Eastern scholars are, to memorise thousand of symbols that represent such things as a woman, a horse, harmony and so on. Those educationists sheltering in their ivory towers, far removed from the daily classroom situation who are responsible for the introduction of "whole word", "look and say", "look and guess", call it what you will method, created difficulties been. No one could be expected to remember by their configuration, the half a million words that are said to make up the English language. All normal children, with sound tuition should be able to cope with the sounds represented by the twenty-six letters of the alphabet in six months. For instance the word, "estab-

ishment", should present no difficulty to an eight-year-old who understands phonics. The unfortunate child "taught" by the "whole word" method with no idea of sound could guess all day and not arrive at the right answer. Schools have also been held in several north Queensland centres. In at least two of these parent study groups have been formed and quite spectacular results achieved in a few weeks. Other schools are being planned in Brisbane and interstate.

There are now way-out educationists who claim that it does not really matter whether children are able to read or not. Audio visual devices will eventually take the place of the human element. In other words, the manipulating change agents will be able to pour into the minds of students, via the television screen, anything that advances their secular humanist Godless ideology. Manufacturers of various recommended devices and publications are no doubt looking forward to a lucrative field day in the near future. The days of "chalk and talk", even though they produced satisfactory results, are now considered old-hat by the unrealistic theorists.

SUPPRESSING OUR HERITAGE

The Australian Language Reform Foundation has stated that students unable to express themselves in speech and writing with clarity will also be unable to marshal their thoughts mentally in a concise and orderly manner. If they cannot think for themselves, the subversives will be pleased to do their thinking for them.

Our Heritage cannot be physically erased. Knowledge of it can be denied to young people. This does not require an act of parliament nor an act of aggression. Education systems that fail to include in the syllabus such vital matters as the truth about the monarchical system of government, that guards our personal and national freedoms, effectively suppress the passing on of important knowledge connected with our Heritage. When students are deprived of the opportunity of developing the satisfying skill of

reading with ease, they are discouraged from carrying out their own research into areas withheld from them at the institutions of higher learning. To far too many young people, reading has become an onerous task to be avoided when ever possible. Offer a poor reader a lengthy column of written material and watch for his re-action. It soon becomes obvious that he is deriving no pleasure from the exercise. It also becomes plain that the struggle to recognise the words precludes any comprehension of the subject. His eyes are constantly going backwards and forwards over word after word in a vain attempt to remember what the word is or to guess its name. Parents are then informed by the "experts" that their child is suffering from dyslexia, which has reached plague proportions since intensive phonic methods were abandoned in favour of the "whole word" method.

The Australian Language Reform Foundation asks parents to insist that their children be taught the basic skill of speaking, reading and writing by methods based on reality. Children also need to know the mechanics of their language just as mastercraftsmen need to know all about the component parts that go to make up the machines with which they work. Students must once again be taught about the origins of their language. Derivation is part of our heritage. They must understand how the language functions by being told about grammar. A knowledge of punctuation is necessary if they are to record their thoughts and ideas in such a way as to avoid confusion.

Letters and articles attacking the A.L.R.F. all have certain traits in common. They are shallow, superficial, facetous and sarcastic. The criticism contained therein is anything but constructive. The style is very familiar to those of us who oppose the imposition of the collective mentality of our students.

The attitude of the personnel of the A.L.R.F. to their critics is "Come and see what we are doing, It works!" Young teachers are now accepting their invitation because they are honest

enough to admit that they lack the ability through no fault of their own to teach children how to use their language to obtain the best possible results that are both lasting and rewarding. The ability to read is the one skill that must be mastered before other subjects can be undertaken. How can undergraduates be expected to cope with their disciplines if the text books are beyond them?

The Australian Language Reform Foundation people are working on a Parents' Rescue Kit containing essential information for parents to use to help their own and other people's children. As always in a free society, self-help is by far the best help.

Membership is available for an annual fee of \$5. payable to the Australian Language Reform Foundation, P.O. Box 305, Atherton, Queensland 4883.

LADIES LINE



EDITED BY MRS. D. WILLACY

This excellent monthly newsletter is a front-runner in the defence of our Christian Heritage.

Every concerned mother will find LADIES LINE of great interest and educational value.

LADIES LINE is published by the Queensland Council of the Australian League of Rights.

SUBSCRIPTION RATE
\$4.00 PER ANNUM

ENQUIRIES:

P.O. BRIGALOW,
QUEENSLAND 4412

Remember When ?

Remember when HIPPY meant big in the hips,
And a TRIP involved travel in cars, trains & ships,
When POT was a utensil for cooking food in,
And HOOKED was what grandmother's rug might have been.
When FIX was a verb that meant mend or repair,
And BE-IN meant simply existing somewhere.
When NEAT meant well-organised, tidy and clean,
And GRASS was a ground-cover, normally green,
When lights and not people were SWITCHED-ON and off,
And the PILL might have been what you took for a cough,
When GROOVY meant furrowed with channels and hollows,
And BIRDS were winged creatures, robins and swallows,
When FUZZ was a substance all fluffy, like lint,
And BREAD came from the bakery, not from the mint.
When SQUARE meant a ninety degree angled form,
And COOL was a temperature - not quite warm.
When ROLL meant bun, and ROCK was a stone
And HANG-UP was something you did with your clothes,
When CHICKEN meant poultry and BAG meant a sack,
And JUNK trashy cast-offs and old bric-a-brac
When JAM was a preserve that you spread on your bread,
And CRAZY meant balmy, not right in the head.
When CAT was a feline, a kitten grown up
And TEA was a liquid you drank from a cup
When SWINGER was someone who swung in a swing,
And a PAD was a soft sort of cushiony thing
When WAY-OUT meant distant and far far away
And a man couldn't sue you for calling him GAY
When DIG meant to shovel and spade in the dirt
And PUT-ON was what you would do with a shirt.
When TOUGH described meat too unyielding to chew
And MAKING-A-SCENE was a rude thing to do.

WORDS so sensible, sober and serious,
Are making this freak scene - like PHYCHEDELIRIOUS
It's groovy-man-groovy but English it's not,
Me thinks that the language has gone to the POT!

K.E.M. NERANG



MR. ROY STUCKEY, O.B.E.,
N.S.W. PRESIDENT,
AUSTRALIAN HERITAGE
SOCIETY



N.S.W. BRANCH MAKES FLAG HISTORY

Mr Roy Stuckey, O.B.E. reports in his September Newsletter that the branch has been successful in its bid to promote the Australian Flag. The following is part of Mr. Stuckey's enthusiastic report.

OUR AUSTRALIAN FLAG

The average Australian citizen would, to my mind, have to be both blind and deaf if he were not at this stage fully conscious of the tremendous impact of our "Fly the Flag Campaign" initiated over the last 3 years. Whether it be over the air, on television, on all types of advertising, the wearing of the flag brooch or pin, the Flag on cars and trucks' windows, the flying of the Flag on so many more flagpoles and last, but by no means least, the tremendous increase in the number of school flagpoles carrying the Flag for the first time for many years. Even our politicians of all Parties have caught the "complaint" and we find them invariably speaking from a platform with a large Australian Flag in the background. Hats off to the Federal Government for the campaign and expenditure involved in providing free of charge to all schools, girl guide and scout movements and other recognised youth groups, a Flag, a portrait of Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II and a cassette containing the National Anthem and Advance Australia Fair. Credit also to the Premier of N.S.W. in making available to the same youth groups, free an Australian Flag carrying the N.S.W. Coat of Arms in lieu of the Southern Cross, this of course, being the N.S.W. State Flag, but it carries the Union Jack in its top left-hand corner.

Many people have contributed to the Flag Campaign in recent years and in my opinion none have helped more than our own Australian Heritage Society. To conclude this particular item, may I say that people generally must agree that never has Australia and the Australian people been more "flag conscious". The movement has taken such a firm hold that I am fully confident this pride of Flag and

love of Country will continue. There can be no doubt whatever the effect it is going to have on the present young and future generations, received very little encouragement or education regarding our Flag and the proper meaning of the word "patriotism".

FLAGS, BROCHURES, STICKERS, PINS AND BROOCHES

In my last Newsletter, I referred to the printing and distribution of leaflets and small flag stickers and the sale of miniature flag pins and brooches. The flag stickers for cars, travelling cases etc are 4" x 2½" and are available at 10 cents each whilst the larger ones 9" x 3" costs 50 cents. The flag pins or brooches are now in regular supply from a Melbourne firm and are available on request at 80 cents each plus postage. They are proving very popular.

MINIATURE FLAG STICKERS FOR USE ON ENVELOPES

We have just made history by having produced what I believe are the first miniature adhesive stickers of the Australian Flag measuring 1" x ½". They are affixed to a roll strip of paper contained in a small carton measuring 3½" x 3" x 1". They can be easily lifted and placed immediately on an envelope. There are 200 flags in a carton and we are selling them for \$3.00 per carton.

Enquiries would be welcomed as we have 200 cartons to dispose of. They are most effective if placed either on the lower left hand side of the front of envelopes or on the back of same.

N.S.W. ADDRESS
BOX 2957, SYDNEY, 2001



The peace of a Greensted evening

THE STRANDS OF TIME

by D. Thompson (New Zealand)

The human mind is a marvellous thing, about which - although we use it in every waking instant - we know relatively little. But how to impress upon the mind such a thing as very long periods of time? The great richness of our British heritage - taking material form in some of the oldest and statliest buildings in England - brought home to me the near impossibility of grasping the significance of over a thousand years of endeavour in present-day terms.

How to gain a full appreciation of Westminster Hall, where Oliver Cromwell beheaded King Charles so long ago, and perhaps irrevocably influenced the direction of the lives of thousands of millions of British descendants? And how to cast the mind back to the times when perhaps oak seedlings grew - even in the times of Christ - that now survive in the timbers of the oldest wooden church in the world? For that is a period of two thousand years; almost impossible for the mind to assimilate.

Such a building does, indeed, stand, and some of the timbers may well have been acorns in the time of Christ. The little church of Greensted was built deep in the vast forest of Essex, of which the modern forests of Epping and Hainault are but small sections. The Roman road from Woodford to Clare (Suffolk) runs nearby. Some of the timbers of the present church are from an earlier wooden church of about A.D. 650 - 660. The Saxons built the oaken section of Greensted around 845 A.D. Since the Saxons were not numerous, neither were their churches, and it is highly probable that St. Edmund worshipped here as well as finding rest as the saint who ever rallied the Saxon forces. The legend of St. Edmund is woven through the history of Greensted Church, which is the sole remaining shrine of the greatest of the Saxon saints.

The sudden death of Offa, while on a pilgrimage to the Holy Land, forced Edmund to take the throne of East Anglia at the age of 15, in 855. In his late twenties Edmund was deeply involved in battling the Danish marauders, which interrupted the first tentative moves that were made which consequently resulted in the development of the style of government which we still attempt to refine today. The process began about 1100 years ago, in the counties of Suffolk and Essex, before the Danes began to plunder the shores of East Anglia.

Insignificant local kings began to exchange their ancestral ranks for the security of a provincial Earldom under Mercian patronage. With all its weaknesses, the system marked the first advances ever made on a grand scale towards the political unity of England that was enshrined in the dreams of the leg-

endary King Arthur. It showed that the fierce independence and particularism of the smaller scattered kingdoms was not an insuperable obstacle to a greater, more unified State. This preceded the emergence of a deliberative assembly where affairs could be settled by discussions between the King and his bishops, nobles and trusted retainers. These deliberations passed by natural development into the larger, formal conferences at which later Anglo-Saxon Kings met their "Witan" - assembly of greater Nobles and higher clergymen of all England.

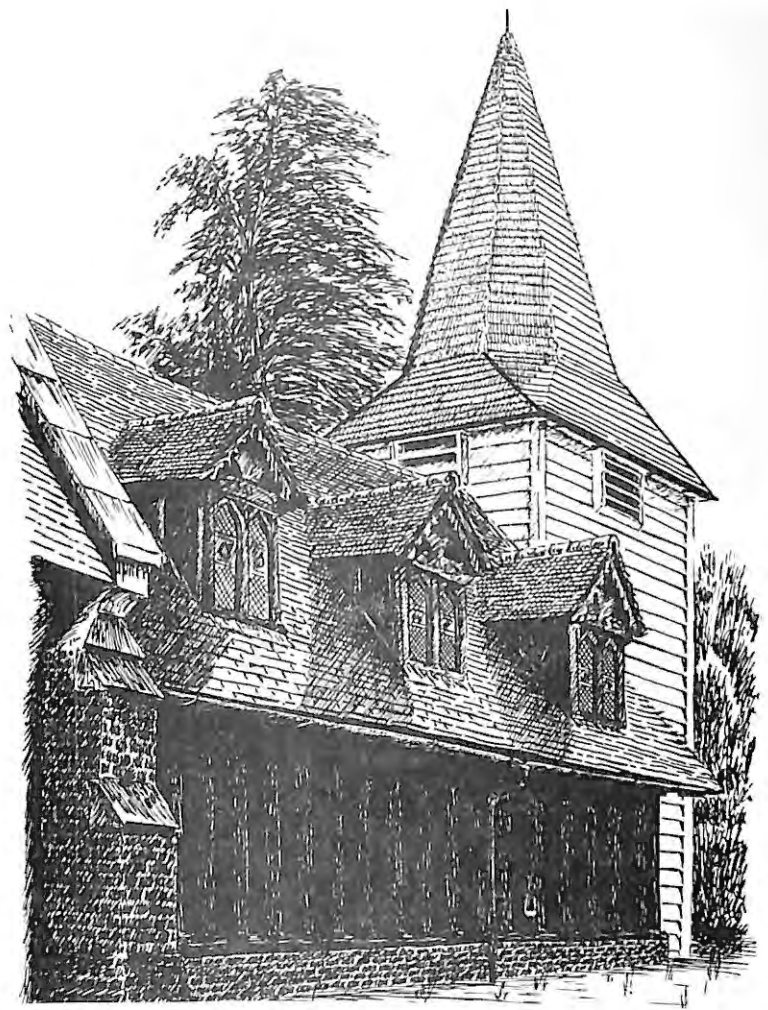
EDMUND, PATRON SAINT

When the young King Edmund was 29, the Danish captain Hinguar defeated his army, and offered Edmund, as terms for survival, the retention of half his kingdom as a vassal state provided he renounce Christianity and worshipped gods acceptable to the Danes. It is recorded that Edmund proudly refused these terms, and was executed by arrow-shot at Hoxne in Suffolk, in 870 A.D. In his martyrdom he became the first patron saint of England.

An ancient legend of St. Edmund says that after death his body was decapitated, and the head thrown into a thicket nearby. When his followers finally found it is said that a grey wolf was found to be guarding it. The legend has inspired a carving on one of the heavy timber beams over the ancient doorway at Greensted - the carving being of a wolf guarding the crowned head of a King.

The local people at nearby Hoxne, where Edmund was martyred, have always maintained that they could identify the tree against which Edmund was martyred. In 1840 the tree finally fell down, and a Danish arrowhead was found embedded in it. There is some speculation that St. Edmund's remains, after resting in London for safe-keeping, were finally removed to Greensted. So Greensted could be said to have spanned the history of Christianity as well as that of the development of England.

I was taken to visit Greensted by Mr. Donald Martin, and his wife Jane. We inspected the church, and spent time absorbing the fascinating legends, that have a ring of truth about them. And on leaving the dim interior of the tiny building it would have been easy to imagine that instead of seeing the quiet bustle of a more modern community, with the motor car and mechanical agricultural equipment, we would find only the quiet peace of the ancient forest, and perhaps a passing forester and his hounds. For such is the effect of the ancient buildings upon a foreign visitor bent upon visiting the world of his ancestors; these are the tangible remains that bind us with our past, and such is their nature that they inspire hope for our future.



The hand cancellation stamp was designed by Michael Southall of the Association of Essex Philatelic Societies.



BRITISH ARCHITECTURE 1972

On June 21, 1972 Greensted Church was chosen by the Post Office as the subject of the 3p stamp in the series "British Architecture—Village Churches". On the day of issue Greensted had its one and only (mobile) Post Office. The designer of the series was Ronald Maddox, R.I.



SPORT AND RECREATION

It is a "fact of life" that the whole world, with its numerous inhabitants, is now beset with enormous problems and difficulties which even threaten to overwhelm and destroy all civilization. We see "distress among nations, with perplexity" and no real indication that the fundamental problems and dangers confronting the human race are being solved or overcome.

In these circumstances, surely there is a need for much solemn thought and reflection by all responsible persons, and diligent search for the underlying cause of the present precarious situation, even at the cost of allowing less time for the pleasures and hobbies of life and the normal round of sporting events.

Contemplating the subject of sport and the place it occupies in the Australian way of life, one might easily get the impression that much of our sport is over-rated as to its real worth or significance, especially professional, commercialized and highly-organised sport. Admittedly there is a need for some levity, humour, and sport, and many people find relaxation, amusement, comradeship, or physical exercise by taking part in various games or diversions.

SPECTATORS UNPRODUCTIVE

As for the big sporting events, sensational games and exhibitions watched by vast crowds packed into grandstands, it may be doubted if they are really worth all the effort involved. Horse-racing, boxing and wrestling contests, first-class cricket, football, tennis etc., although momentarily pleasing and exciting many spectators, may have some detrimental effects. They can be somewhat distracting to the mind, and incidentally they deprive the spectators of opportunity to engage in other, and perhaps more useful or profitable, activity.

Following are several extracts from an essay on "Recreation" by a great Englishman of the 19th Century, Martin Tupper, whose extensive writings were widely circulated in Great Britain, the U.S.A. and Europe.

"To join **ADVANTAGE** to amusement, to gather **PROFIT** with pleasure,
Is the wise man's necessary aim, when he lieth in the shade of recreation.

....Man hath found out inventions, to cheat him of the weariness of life,
To help him to forget realities, and hide the misery of guilt.

For love of praise, and hope of gain, for passion delusive happiness.

He joineth the circle of folly, and heapeth on the fire of excitement-

Oftentimes sadly out of heart at the tiresome insipidity of pleasure,
Oftentimes labouring in vain, convinced of the palpable deceit.

....The cheapest pleasures are the best: and nothing is more costly than sin:

Yet we mortgage futurity, counting it but little loss:

Neither can a man delight in that which breedeth sorrow,

Yet do we hunt for joy even in the fires that consume it.

....If the mind is wearied by study, or the body worn with sickness,

It is well to lie fallow for a while, in the vacancy of sheer amusement;

But when thou prospereth in health, and thine intellect can soar untired,

To seek uninstructional pleasure is to slumber on the couch of indolence."

Contributed by W.M. KITTO.

PATRIOTISM AND MUSIC

If there is one quality in Australians still alive and very well, it is patriotism. Not as prolific as it always was once, nor manifest in the old dimensions, and certainly not encouraged by the mass media — except for the few country T.V. and radio broadcasters.

When expression of patriotism is suppressed, there is left a vacuum, which is invariably filled by cults, a symptom of decay or decadence. When religion is under attack cults are encouraged as a means of fragmentation, though there is discernment in the promotion of cults, as some are cohesive and not fragmentary.

Recent figures published indicate that the biggest and most prosperous cult in Australia is Country Music. Not that music itself qualifies in any way as a cult, but can be a good vehicle for a cult. Paradoxically, by far the biggest and longest living name in this cult, is one who can hardly be described in any other way than as a true patriot in every sense of the word. Born David Kirkpatrick in Kempsey, N.S.W., in 1927 he is known to a good portion of Australians as Slim Dusty. For thirty-four years he has been unceasingly recording songs about Australia and Australians and the things and places that are the very essence of our country and spirit. Every facet of our past and present he has presented in song, whether it be our climate, our people as stockmen, drovers, Anzacs, mothers, miners, explorers, drinkers, councillors, and even our politicians, set against our towns, rivers, plains or mountains, in floods and drought and war, some with pathos, but most with humour.

Thousands of our teenagers now know Paterson's "The Man from Snowy River" and the "Man from Ironbark", together with a host of Henry Lawson's prose and verse. Not because they learnt it at school, but because they heard Slim Dusty sing it all.

He was the first Australian artist to earn a "Golden Record", again paradoxically with a song about one of the worst aspects of Australia — "The Pub with No Beer"!

HALF A LIFETIME

For thirty four years he has roamed the length and breadth of Australia, singing songs about our country to audiences ranging from aborigines to a jam packed Opera House, all the while collecting every bit of verse that could be found about Australia and its people and always spreading that great heritage of Lawson and Paterson.

To purvey patriotism of this nature is one thing, to be a patriot can be something else. With the recent



BY JOHN BRET
T



(QUEENSLAND)

publication of his biography — "Walk A Country Mile" we can at last see this man as he is. Humility is the hallmark of that biography, for he attributes any success to his wife, Joy, and all those other who helped him. For the first thirty years he battled like no other Australian, barely making enough money each year to finance next year's tour, all the while relentlessly recording new songs, until today only two other artists in the world have recorded more separate tracks, Frank Snow the Canadian Folk/singer, and Yehudi Menuhin. And still, the media does not know him!

The prologue to his biography would touch the heart of at least a million Australians, though he possibly does not realise this. It is the story of the day he returned to the family farm where he was born and bred, near Kempsey in New South Wales. How many of us know that feeling he had in his stomach that day as he viewed that once prosperous and happy farm, now deserted and forlorn as the homestead slowly decays. It was from thousands of farms like this that our country shed so many tall and healthy Australians to fight two world wars, where they acquitted themselves like no other nation before. Some never to return to their country, and most never to return to the farm as it passed into the hands of the banks. Part of that fifty year long exodus he has put into verse and song, but if the essence of that prologue could be put into verse, he would have another gold record within a week.

FAME

Recognition commenced when David Gordon Kirkpatrick was awarded the M.B.E., which Slim said was a tribute to country music rather than to him. Some might have believed him, had not the curiosity of a newspaper writer been aroused who wanted to know how this never-heard-of bloke had earned an M.B.E. Only then did the prodigious work of thirty four years get some figures attached to it. With total album sales worth over \$10 million, he now sells over 200,000 albums a year and can sell 100,000 advance copies of an album and earn a gold record the same day! By the same title, "Walk A Country Mile", his book sold 25,000 copies in a week, to go out of print. Even that event should rate a few lines in the papers, as it is all about a fair dinkum Australian and Australia. At last count sometime in 1979 he had over fifty Gold and Platinum records and Australians had bought over 2½ million records of his.

All that leaves the combined totals of all our artists for the last thirty years away over the horizon somewhere, but most Australians can name ten or more "known" artists. Because it is patriotism he gets no publicity - no disc jockeys drooling over his latest release - no headlines - no screaming mobs of girls to greet him and, thank God, no scandal or smearing.

Such an achievement and such an audience on such a subject, done "all alone and unassisted", tell us one happy thing. We are still at heart a healthy and patriotic nation.

Men of the Trees (M.O.T.T.) could be described as a close relative of the Australian Heritage Society. Both organisations are actively working toward preserving certain aspects of our heritage which are earmarked for destruction either knowingly or unknowingly. Men of the Trees are dedicated to the preservation, care and planting of one of Nature's most vital and life-sustaining gifts.

ATTENTION ARBORICULTURALISTS!

M.O.T.T. SERVES VITAL ROLE

Founded in Britain, 1922, Men of the Trees has since spread to other countries, including Australia. The nucleus of the Australian organisation is in Western Australia with interest in other states growing rapidly.

For a better understanding of their work, we reproduce below the charter of the Men of the Trees.

OUR NEW EARTH CHARTER

We submit that without fair play to earth we cannot live physically; without fair play to neighbour, we cannot live socially; without fair play to better self, we cannot live individually.

We believe in the development of a fuller understanding of the true relationship between all forms of life in an endeavour to maintain a natural balance between minerals, vegetation, animals and mankind, Man being primarily dependent on the vegetation of the earth for both food and clothing. In order to get food, clothes and shelter to enable us to live our bodily life on this earth we must take care of the earth and especially, not meddle wantonly with the natural circulation of water, which meddling has been the cause of great loss of soil all over the globe, and we must rightly return to earth the waste of whatever we take from the earth.

We submit that water must be a basic consideration in all our national and earth-wide forest programmes; streams and rivers must be restored to their natural motion, and floods and droughts must be eliminated. Forests and woodlands are intimately linked with biological, social and spiritual well-being. The minimum tree cover for safety is one third of the total land area. Every catchment area should have at least this proportion of tree cover made up of mixed species, including broad-leaf trees, monoculture in any form



being injurious to the land.

We believe in the traditional ideal that our 'fields of the woods,' by which is meant landscape farming of every valley and plain, with woodlands in high places, shelter belts, nut and fruit orchards (of mixed species) and hedgerow trees everywhere.

The founder of the Perth Branch and its first president is a forester with an impressive record of tree care. Charles Peaty holds a B.Sc. in Forestry with the University of Wales and is a life member of the Royal Forestry Society, a member of the Australian Institute of Foresters and Australian Forest Development Institute. After extensive forestry work in the U.K., Charles Peaty settled in Perth in 1966 and after working with the Forests Dept. he founded a tree and plantation service which encouraged tree planting on a large scale for sound ecological reasons as well as for investment purposes.

Charles Peaty also worked, until this year, as a consultant and manager for extensive private plantation development in W.A., Victoria, N.S.W. and Queensland.

With a Patron like His Royal Highness Prince Charles, the Prince of Wales, M.O.T.T. is both a welcome and most necessary organisation in the struggle to save our valuable heritage of trees.

The voluntary work carried out by the organisation is best described in Mr. Peaty's own words:

Winter, 4am, is not the most attractive time, even in Perth's delightful climate, at which to rise and drive through the rain to collect a rented bus, sign all the papers then sputter the cold vehicle into the city centre to collect 25 shivering volunteers for a tree planting expedition.

Yet May 31st 1980 saw the W.A. association of Men of the Trees roll out of town driven by a lady volunteer 240 kms to 4ha of cleared State Forest forming part of about 23,000 ha to be replanted after past destruction by over-felling and fungal attack. Another 15 volunteers materialised on roadside and the planting site to listen to instructions from the local forest officer then plunge into the task of planting 5,000 trees and adding fertiliser to give each tree a good start.

Such was the good natured enthusiasm that the task took a mere 5 hours with much hilarity, sharing of jobs and lunch included. Whispy tall, runty solid, young and old and an advanced pregnancy dug and bent and carried with pride-concealed groans as the flexing found our weaknesses.

Morale was boosted by the kind arrival of a young family who had heard all about the expedition on the radio and gave up a few hours of their Saturday to add their pennorth of effort, by the sympathy and participation of the Divisional Forest Officer who stuck with us for hours. His Saturday too!

As if this effort was not enough the volunteer planters each paid their whack of the bus hire and petrol! Jean drove like an untiring professional and we slid into Perth's Entertainment Centre car park around 9.30pm feeling we'd done something towards greening Australia - really done something rather than just talked about it.

All the conservation theories, protests and tub thumping mean nought if nothing constructive is done. Better still if its voluntary and educative for the participant. We are asked why we planted government trees on government land? Its our government, our land and forest so why not? Where better? What's more we expect to return from time to time and maintain the trees as necessary to show them we really care.

Shortly Men of the Trees expect to be planting some trees with ALCOA. Perhaps 10,000 this time as the site is so much nearer Perth it may encourage the faint hearted to join in and learn the joy of creating a forest. Its so easy to find reasons why it may not be worthwhile because 100% success is uncertain, because you don't like the site or the owner or the type of trees but this does nothing for Western Australia's need for trees, water and oxygen.

If any reader would like to plant with us they are very welcome. We intend to create groves, plantations and beautiful specimen amenity trees anywhere in this State someone would like us to for the common good. We want our members to understand trees through caring for them, to understand you can grow trees virtually anywhere with care and intelligence.

It has been my fortunate experience to successfully plant ancient lead mine tips, old coal heaps, clay bottomed open-cut sites and the surrounds of a copper smelter. Trees are tough and adaptable, they bring good up from the depths of poor soils and enrich the surface with humus to everyones benefit. With trees come worms and birds, the ploughmen and sowers of nature and it is the time for ordinary people to assist foresters with reversing our centuries of cutting without replacing.

The Australian Heritage Society congratulates M.O.T.T. for their valuable contribution to making a better Australia. Readers wishing to learn more about their activities may contact the president.

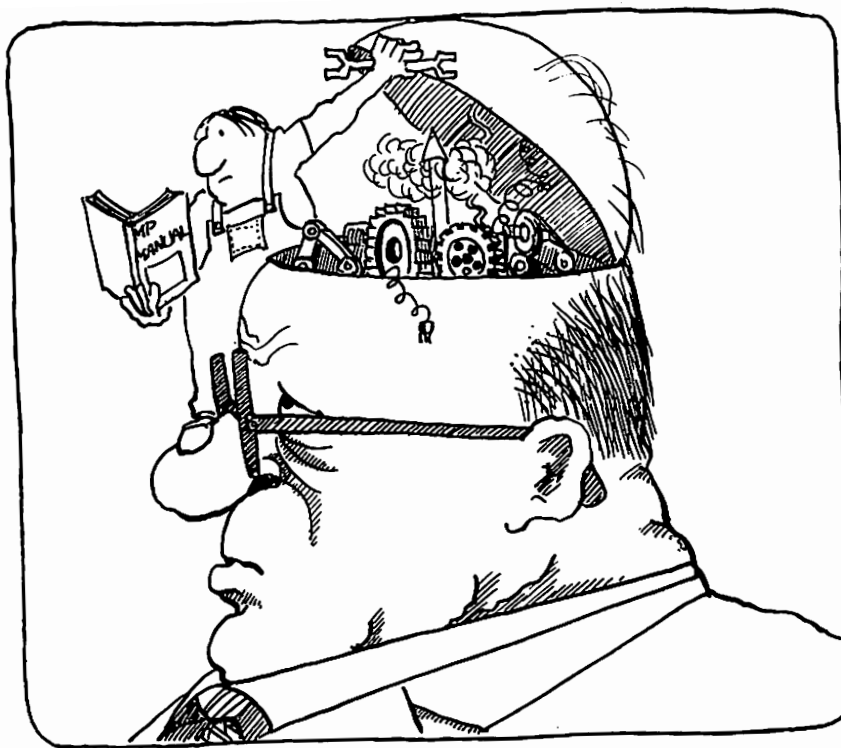
Mr. Charles Peaty
Men of the Trees

1179 Hay Street, West Perth. W.A. 6005

PASS IT ON . . .

When a bit of sunshine hits ye,
After passing of a cloud;
When a fit of laughter gits ye
And yer spine is feelin' proud,
Don't forget to up and fling it
At a soul that's feelin' blue;
For the minute that ye sling it,
Its a boomerang to you.

Capt Jack Crawford



USING YOUR MP

Is it worth your while to try?

Australians could claim to be amongst the best governed people in a Western democracy – if we judged by numbers alone. This country has a total of 759 members of Parliament (MPs) for a population of 14 418 200, or one MP for every 19 000 people. This compares very generously with Britain's figure of one Member of the House of Commons for every 88 000 people and even if you add the 1 100 peers in the House of Lords (of whom only 100 or so regularly attend Parliament) there would only be one parliamentarian for every 32 000 people. Our system also beats the Federal system in the USA which has one member per 27 400 people.

Of course some Australian MPs have far larger electorates than their counterparts in Britain (the Federal electorate of Kalgoorlie is 10 times the

size of Britain). And local government authorities in Britain and the USA carry many of the responsibilities that are dealt with here by State governments. But we are numerically well-represented and therefore should expect good service.

In Federal Parliament members of the Lower House are called Members of the House of Representatives (MHR) and members of the Upper House, the Senate, are called Senators. In NSW, Victoria, Queensland, Western Australia and the Northern Territory members of the Lower Houses of the State Parliaments are called Members of the Legislative Assembly (MLA). In Tasmania and South Australia they are called Members of the House of Assembly (MHA). Members of the Upper Houses of State Parliaments are called Members of the Legislative

Council (MLC). There are no Upper Houses in the Queensland and Northern Territory Parliaments.

How your MP can help

There are two ways in which your MP can help you. In the first your MP acts as your 'local member' – as a complaints bureau and a general 'fixer' – and you usually approach him or her on an individual basis. In the second case, your MP acts as a legislator and debater within Parliament and he or she may be 'lobbied' by an individual, or by a lobby or pressure group. You will usually find you have far more success in making use of your MP in the first role than in the second.

Most MPs admit that they deal best with administrative problems that their constituents (the people they represent in Parliament) encounter with

government bureaucracies.

Many of the complaints or calls for help Federal MPs receive fall within the area of social welfare, immigration and taxation, although they also deal with problems about family law, postal and telephone services, employment, housing, health and education, or just filling out forms. Among the many problems State MPs deal with are those concerning social welfare, consumer affairs, transport, education, health services, housing and planning and environment.

As can be seen from the examples above, many areas of Federal and State Government responsibility overlap and there is frequently confusion over which MP, Federal or State, should deal with a problem. In broad terms, the Federal Government is a funding and policy-making government, while the State Governments are providers of services. For instance, a complaint regarding education may be about funding and therefore a Federal matter, or one about a local school and, therefore a State matter. But this is not always the case. Also, the problem may be a local government one about rates, building, sewerage, roads or town planning, in which case you should contact a member of your local council.

How to contact your MP

The simplest way to find out which Government is responsible for the area with which you are concerned is to consult the front pages of the capital city telephone directory in your State. These pages list the departments and other government bodies under separate sections for the Commonwealth, State and local governments. Another way to clear up any confusion is to phone a neighbourhood community centre or a citizens' advice bureau, if there is one in your area.

A more direct way is to phone the office of your Federal or State MP. The MP, or his or her electorate staff, will tell you which MP you should contact, or may take up the case on your behalf. There are many cross referrals between Federal and State MPs, regardless of political affiliations.

The addresses and telephone numbers of MPs are listed under Commonwealth Parliament Offices, or Parliament House for the States, in the government pages in the front of capital city telephone directories. Hansard – the official transcript of all proceedings in both Upper and Lower Houses of Parliament – lists MPs, their electorate and their party, and government ministers and their portfolios in the front pages.

Federal and State Hansards are available at public libraries and from government information offices.

Copies of the official lists of Ministers, MPs, and Senators or Members of State Upper Houses can be obtained from the relevant Parliament House. Queries should be directed to the Clerk of the House of Representatives or the Clerk of the Senate in Federal Parliament. In NSW, Victoria, Queensland and Western Australia queries should be directed to the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly and in Tasmania and South Australia to the Clerk of the House of Assembly. Other sources of information about MPs are electoral offices, post offices, local councils and political party offices.

by letters between the department, the Minister and the MP. Your problem, which may have been floating through the public service system for months, may be solved with astonishing speed. But not always.

If an MP feels your case warrants it, he or she may put a question to the Minister during parliamentary Question Time, or bring up your case during a debate.

An MP normally has influence and standing outside Parliament. He or she has a wide range of contacts within government bodies, political parties and the community. An MP knows when committees meet, who is on them and how systems operate. Personal intervention by an MP often carries a

A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

HERITAGE has reproduced this information because it contains valuable information about how best to get your Member of Parliament working effectively. The opinions expressed are not necessarily those of The Australian Heritage Society.

Australia's parliamentary heritage has, through fault of both electors and Members of Parliament, eroded to the point where most voters feel helpless when it comes to fighting a particular issue. They are frustrated in their attempts to influence their representative.

The act of voting for or against your political representative is no guarantee nowadays of a change in policy. Our political system is laden with policy changes; what we need is a change in direction, a change that will delegate the vast bureaucracies to the role of administrators and not of policy makers.

If you want immediate action, it is best to make an appointment to see your MP. Most MPs have scheduled times for interviews (sometimes published in local newspapers), although some are more reluctant than others to grant them. Some people prefer to ring their MP and follow up their telephone call with a letter, especially if it is a complex matter. Others just write a letter (see box). Whichever approach you try, make sure you have all the necessary information – a concise written summary of your problem and photocopies of any supporting bills, letters or documents, never the originals.

What your MP can do

If your problem is purely an administrative one, your MP contacts the department, authority, or other government body concerned. An MP's usual approach is to write a letter to the head of the department or government body, who refers it to the relevant departmental section. In more urgent cases your MP may go straight to the Minister responsible.

Your MP may ask the Minister or a departmental officer to see you, but more often consultations are carried out

great deal of clout. The people who use their MPs most are those who live in the country. They have found that their MPs are not only powerful lobbyists for their causes within Parliaments, but also helpful contacts for getting things done in the city – helping to find a hospital bed for a sick member of the family, or solving problems about schooling for the children, for example.

But a lot depends on the persistence, influence and ability of your MP and his or her enthusiasm for your case. The Federal MP (and former Minister), Mr Gordon Bryant said: 'I would know some members if they get a dozen letters a week, they'd regard themselves as being in a state of acute activity. But other members get hundreds.' Many MPs rely heavily on their electorate secretary to handle this type of work.

An MP is duty bound to help a constituent whether or not the constituent supports his or her party. But if you are a committed supporter of the opposite party you may feel reluctant to take a problem to your MP. And, realistically, you have a much better chance of getting your problem solved if your MP is a member of the party in

power. An Opposition MP can embarrass the Government in Parliament, but there is little he or she can do personally to persuade a Minister who does not want to take action.

If your local MP is a Minister of the Government or a Member of Cabinet, you may find that he or she is too busy to offer you much help. A Minister has a larger parliamentary staff than backbench MPs but they are usually employed on ministerial work. The Minister's electorate secretary is left to handle queries and complaints by constituents.

Other approaches

If you feel there is little to be gained from going to your local MP, you could go first to a Senator or a member of the Upper House in your State. These Parliamentarians usually have less immediate electorate work than MPs so may be freer to help you. They have the same access to departments and Ministers and can also take up your case in Parliament.

A more direct approach is to write to the Minister responsible for the department (or government authority) with which you have a grievance. Your letter will again be referred to the department and will normally get higher-powered treatment than if you write direct to the department or, perhaps, to your MP.

The Federal Government and all State Governments have ombudsmen to deal with complaints against public servants and government bodies. It is written into all ombudsman acts (both Federal and State) that any individual can make a complaint to the ombudsman through his or her MP.

A sample letter to your MP

Mr William Blank, MP,
Parliament House,
(Address and City).

Dear Mr Blank,
Could you please help me with a problem I have been having with(government department or government authority concerned and address).

On(date) I wrote to the department outlining my problem. (Brief description of problem).

Having had no reply, I wrote again (or telephoned) to the department, but still have not had an answer.

I would be very grateful if you could find out what action is being taken about this matter,

Yours faithfully,

Frank Smith

Lobbying

Enlisting your MP's support in Parliament on issues of Government policy – such as higher pensions, medical insurance, consumer laws, or the building of freeways or airports in urban areas – is a much more difficult task. Even with skilful lobbying the failure rate is high. But, as we claim to live in a representational democracy which accords us the right to have a say in how we are governed, it is worth trying to put theory into practice.

Although you may still wish to contact your MP individually, successful lobbying is generally achieved by joining or forming a group to fight for your cause. Once again, it is best to make an appointment and send a delegation (no more than three people) to see your MP.

You must have detailed, up-to-date facts to support your case and be prepared to argue persuasively. One way to make an impact is to point out anomalies in Government policies or proposals. Hansard is a valuable source of facts and information about previous bills, debates and questions on an issue.

To lobby your MP effectively, you should consider his or her biases and ambitions, with the following points in mind: How popular is your case? Will it gain or lose votes? How will it affect your MP's standing in the party? Has his or her party a policy on the issue? MPs nearly always vote on party lines, although a Senator or Member of a State Upper House will occasionally cross the floor to vote against his or her party.

Your MP will take more notice if your delegation is part of a broader campaign of public meetings, letters to newspapers and demonstrations. Invite your MP to attend a public meeting where he or she will have to indicate his or her stand. However, even if an MP supports your cause, this does not mean he or she will press your case in Parliament.

You may achieve more by lobbying an MP sympathetic to your cause from another electorate who has some influence in Parliament. But it may prove impossible to find such an MP. It may also be worth tackling an MP in a marginal seat over an issue that might affect voters in that electorate.

MPs disagree about the effectiveness of lobbying; few admit to being swayed by lobbying, especially on social issues. Mass letter writing and telegram campaigns, they claim, have no effect.

Yet politicians do like to know what the public is thinking and they rely, to some extent, on their constituents to keep them informed. For instance, last year

Federal MPs received thousands of letters and phone calls opposing the introduction of a retail turnover tax. The tax was not introduced. Similarly, lobbying may have induced the Federal Government to move the indexing of old-age pensions back to a six-monthly basis. There are times when strong, concerted pressure on local MPs will succeed in forming or reversing government policy.

Petitions are another common form of lobbying, but they have to be worded in what some people consider is a submissive and demeaning way, or they may be rejected by Parliament. (See box on this page.) Hundreds of petitions are received in Federal and State Parliaments each session and MPs claim they are not influenced by petitions. But once again they are a way of letting MPs and governments know what the public is thinking. They may

THE ROLE OF THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL

This article has not suggested that electors write to the Governor-General of their views and ultimately their wishes or WILL.

In his book "Your Will Be Done", Arthur A. Chresby deals at length with this important question.

EDITOR

See book advertisement at the end of this article.

also give an indication of how many voters are supporting or opposing a certain issue.

How powerful is your MP?

Some people argue that, with the growth in power of the Prime Minister (or Premier) and of the Cabinet, and the corresponding decline in power of backbenchers in Australian governments, it is often pointless to lobby an ordinary MP.

Many lobby groups, especially the more powerful ones such as the Australian Chamber of Industry, the Housing Industry Association, the Australian Mining Industry Council, the Australian Chamber of Commerce, the Australian Automobile Association and the Cattleman's Union of Australia, have their national offices in Canberra. They deal directly with the relevant department or Minister, and sometimes

A sample petition

To the Honourable the President and Members of the Senate in Parliament assembled: The humble Petition of the undersigned citizens of Australia respectfully sheweth:

That no safe way has yet been devised to explode nuclear bombs.

Your petitioners therefore humbly pray that the Senate should take all possible steps to prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons.

And your petitioners as in duty bound will ever pray.

Name

Address

Signature

with the Prime Minister.

Since the early 1970s there has been a growing army of professional lobbyists working mainly in Canberra. Often former public servants, they also deal directly with the departments and Ministers. But they are usually employed by big business, manufacturing industries, mining companies and other groups with money. Smaller groups cannot afford their fees.

These operations in Canberra are mirrored, to a lesser degree, in the State capital cities.

Legislation in Parliament is largely shaped by the public service and the cabinet. Strict party discipline, combined with the rules and procedures of Parliament, allows backbenchers little opportunity to introduce, amend or veto legislation. MPs cannot amend any bill if this may increase the cost involved or increase taxation. Also, the sheer bulk of legislation and its complexity prevents ordinary MPs from gaining a thorough understanding of most issues, let alone debating them.

If an MP has a deep commitment to a cause, he or she can introduce a Private Member's bill. But these bills are a rarity and are seldom passed through Parliament. The most publicised Private Member's bills over the last decade have been those on abortion, both pro- and anti-, in Federal Parliament. Despite heavy lobbying on both sides and relaxation of party discipline to allow a 'vote of conscience', none of these bills has been passed.

Some parliamentary pressures

Yet some MPs, especially those belonging to a party in power, claim they can influence policy and their parliamentary leaders. If your MP does decide to go into battle for you in Parliament, he or she can fight for your cause on several different fronts.

The most direct way is by taking the matter up with the relevant Minister; a persistent MP can win many points through personal contacts. Backbenchers can influence government policy in the party room, especially if they organise support amongst their colleagues or feel they have public opinion behind them. But

MPs are careful not to overdo this approach in case they come to be seen as mavericks.

Backbench MPs can make use of the time allotted for Questions without Notice in Parliament to probe or embarrass the Government on policy issues. Or you may get your MP to put a Question on Notice requesting information or verification of information you have provided. For instance, a lobby group opposing the building of a new airport can ask their MP to check the figures on the number of accidents resulting from aircraft landing and taking off around the world.

Opposition MPs can embarrass the Government by bringing up policy

MODES OF ADDRESS

Person addressed	Envelope	Salutation
FEDERAL PARLIAMENT		
President of the Senate	Senator the Honourable William Blank, President of the Senate ¹	Dear Mr President, or less formally My dear President,
Speaker of the House of Representatives	The Honourable William Blank, MP Speaker of the House of Representatives	Dear Mr Speaker, or less formally My dear Speaker,
Prime Minister	The (Right) Honourable William Blank, MP Prime Minister ²	Dear Prime Minister, or less formally My dear Prime Minister,
Minister (Senate)	Senator the (Right) Honourable William Blank Minister for Defence	Dear Minister, or less formally Dear Senator Blank,
Minister (House of Representatives)	The (Right) Honourable William Blank, MP Minister for Defence	Dear Minister, or less formally Dear Mr Blank,
Senator	Senator (or Senator the [Right] Honourable) ¹ William Blank	Dear Sir, or less formally Dear Senator Blank,
Senator-Elect	Senator-Elect William Blank	Dear Sir, or less formally Dear Senator-Elect Blank,
Member of the House of Representatives	Mr (or the [Right] Honourable) William Blank, MP	Dear Sir, or less formally Dear Mr Blank,
STATE, TERRITORY AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT		
Premier	The Honourable William Blank, MLA ³ Premier of...	Dear Premier, or less formally My Dear Premier,
Member of a Legislative Council	The Honourable William Blank, MLC	Dear Sir, or less formally Dear Mr Blank,
Member of a Legislative Assembly	Mr William Blank, MLA	Dear Sir, or less formally Dear Mr Blank,

1. The president of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives, Ministers and Assistant Ministers in the Federal Parliament are accorded the title The Honourable. The title is also given to Ministers of State Governments, Presidents and Members of Legislative Councils and Speakers of Legislative Assemblies.

2. Members and Senators in the Federal Parliament who have been appointed to the Privy Council are accorded the title of The Right Honourable.

3. MHA in South Australia and Tasmania

issues during the Grievance and Adjournment Debates. MPs belonging to the party in power normally try not to embarrass it, but the threat of bringing up an issue during Question Time or a debate can force a Minister or Government to act.

MPs on both sides will sometimes bring up an issue in Parliament to gain it publicity. They may wish to warn the public about the practices of a certain individual, firm or organisation, or about the dangers of some product. MPs are able to say things in Parliament that under other circumstances would incur a defamation suit as they have a tradition of 'parliamentary privilege'. But MPs use this approach with great care.

Parliamentary committees

One more way to try to influence government policies is by making submissions to the Federal Parliamentary Joint, Standing and Special Committees. (State Governments have not developed the committee system to the same degree within their Parliaments.) Many of these committees call for submissions through advertisements in the daily newspapers and details about others can be found by scanning through Hansard. Current committees include the Senate Standing Committee on Constitutional and Legal Affairs, the Senate Standing Committee on Education and the Arts, the Joint Select Committee on the

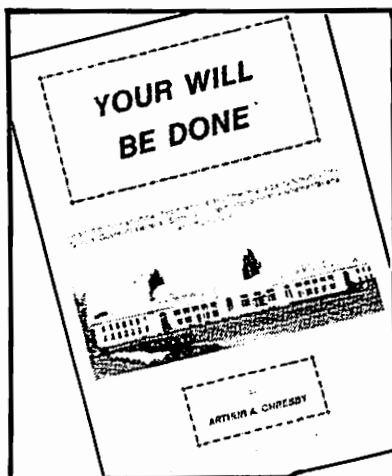
Family Law Act, the Senate Committee on Social Welfare, and the House of Representatives Committee on Road Safety.

Conclusion

Your MP can help you cut through bureaucratic red tape within government departments and can sometimes help you with your individual problems outside government. But your ability to influence your MP's stand on local and national issues, and through him or her, the Government, is limited.

In the long term, you can join a political party and try to influence party policy. In the short term, you can vote against your MP at the next election.

"Reprinted by courtesy of the Australian Consumers' Association, Publisher of CHOICE magazine 28 Queen Street, Chippendale, N.S.W. 2008 Subscription \$15.00 per annum".



YOUR WILL BE DONE is an essential handbook for those who have resolved to make better use of Australia's parliamentary system.

Arthur Chresby has written the information in a simple, non-technical manner. It is a guide to the function of the Queen, Governor-General, State Governors, Parliament, Parliamentarians and most important of all, **THE PEOPLE.**

A reading must!

Single copies \$3.00 posted.

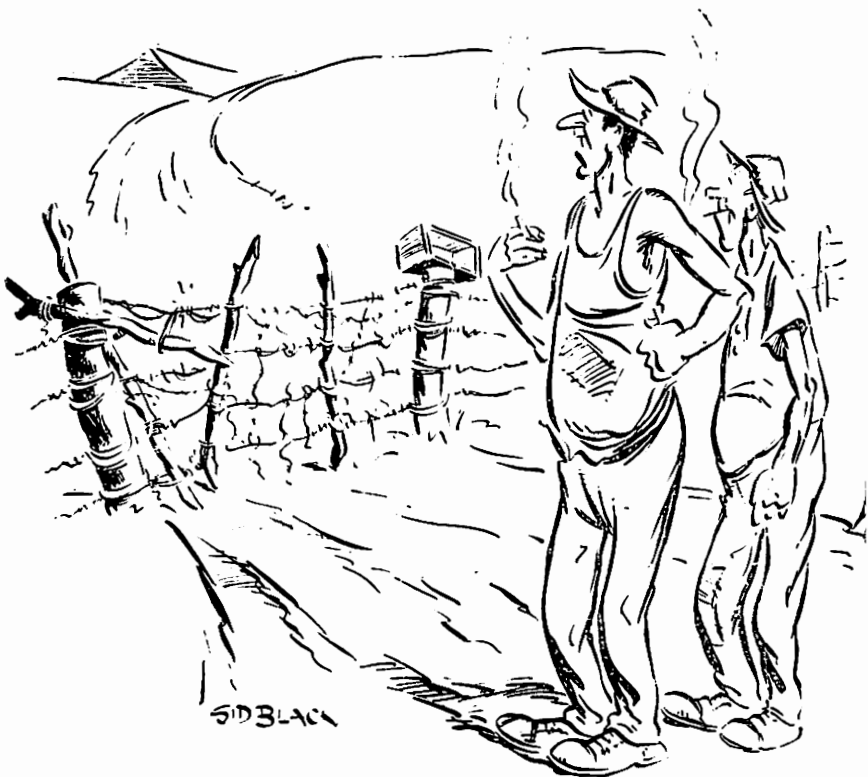
**THE AUSTRALIAN
HERITAGE SOCIETY**
BOX 16, INGLEWOOD W.A. 6052

HERITAGE BULLETIN

Readers wishing to take some positive action concerning Australia's heritage may care to subscribe for our HERITAGE BULLETIN.

All details to, The Secretary,

BOX 16, INGLEWOOD W.A. 6052



"Dad built the original gate and I've gradually improved on it"



THE PRIEST KING

By JOHN BRETT, Queensland

As the Roman Republic decayed and collapsed, Archais made the observation that: 'Monarchies degenerate into Republics - Republics degenerate into Democracies - and Democracies degenerate into Anarchy'. Down through history events have confirmed his observation. At this point in time we seem to be hovering between ballot box democracy and economic anarchy, and as everybody casts about looking for a way out of the mess, the only person in sight who still commands our respect and trust with dignified honour, is our Monarch Queen Elizabeth.

But our Monarch is under greater pressure and attack than we are, mostly she is condemned to silence or subtle ridicule, while our education system is void about the true role and responsibilities of our Queen.

Every group of people that ever existed, in every nation in all history, all have thrust up from their number what might be described as a 'Priest King! Every nation in the world today has a Priest King, whether he is called Jimmy Carter, Fidel Castro, Mugabe, Mal Fraser or Her Majesty The Queen. Only the way they arrive at the apex is different. No Priest King was ever more significant than Karl Marx, whose disciples never cease or tire in their efforts to denigrate or destroy our Monarchy.

RESERVE POWERS

Our modern constitutional Priest King has a reserve role in the application of power that is unknown or forgotten about. Perhaps it is best illustrated by looking at two examples from history, one example just past, the other still with us.

When Speke and Grant reached Buganda, just 100 years ago, they found a King Mutesa ruling over his people with ruthless and unrestrained power. Mutesa was descended from a line of Kings who ruthlessly put to death any subject who displeased them in any fashion at all. Speke and Grant found subjects at court being hacked to death on the spot - for cough-

ing in Mutesa's presence, then having their families buried alive beside them. Mutesa inherited - maintained and passed on his power of destruction of his subjects. There was no such thing as a 'power struggle' at Mutesa's court, for it was a continual involvement of a king in an orgy of unrestrained power, as we see in the Soviet Union today.

Queen Elizabeth on the other hand, has no say whatsoever in the day-to-day application of power in her country. Her advice is neither sought nor given, crises arrive and depart, the nation may be bitterly divided and her country may even go to war. But never is the Queen involved in the political arena about the day-to-day question of who is

Because she can never be involved in the politics and crises which lead to such situations and her people are not divided in their allegiance to her around the political divisions, her prior behaviour and performance commands the respect and trust of her people, so she is able to hold them back from the revolutions that previous monarchs were forced to bring upon their people.

The President of the U.S.A. is also the head of the nations military forces and other forces of law and order, and in the event of anarchy he commands an awesome force of physical power. But because he must be intimately involved in all situations leading up to crisis where he would have to exert military



Mutesa's Tomb.

going to apply power over whom. Yet she is the busiest person in the nation applying herself to the task of uniting her subjects about that other type of power Christ spoke about, which so few understand, that power of doing unto others what you would have them do unto you.

She plays no part nor has any say in the politics of the day, and yet if Government failed to Govern or was usurped and the law could not be upheld, as the nation moved into a state of anarchy, she would immediately assume the duties and responsibilities of exercising control of all the physical forces of power in the nation. As head of the armed services, her training and her duty would be to maintain law and order and prevent the use of force of arms or terror by any one section of the nation against another section. So averting civil war. She would have nothing personal at stake, she could not be bought by any amount of money or bribed with political power, nor blackmailed, her own life and limb is inexorably bound to the life and limb of her people. She can only gain the peace, and recover good Government for all her subjects, with the restoration of law and order without bloodshed.

At such times no other person on earth is equipped with both the trust and the means and incentive, to prevent her nation following the others into the abyss. It seems only her enemies have grasped this point.

force, his nation would be divided in their trust and uncertain of their allegiance. Less than 15% of the nation voted for him in the first place.

Above all, as in the Roman Republic, he could be bribed with his life.

In situations of Revolution, that final hour in the life of nations, no President has, or can command the trust and allegiance of all the subjects of that nation. Unlike the position of a monarch, who can have enjoyed years of affection and allegiance to a common ideal, without bringing suffering or division upon her people. Whatever the outcome of a Republics revolutionary convulsions, there remains the explosive question of who will be appointed to power, by whom, to lead the country back to representative government. No republic has ever recovered from such convulsions and collapse to demonstrate the procedure.

This last century has seen the destruction of more monarchies than ever before and nowhere have the subjects of those monarchies been better off afterwards. The French lost theirs to be replaced by Napoleon - the Russians lost theirs and were given Lenin - Germany abandoned hers for Hitler and Spain lost hers for France. Those who seek a republic never inform us beforehand who our new Priest King will be, for to do so would put an end to their republican idea.



The Queen's Procession moves down the nave of Westminster at the conclusion of the Coronation ceremony.

Every man or group in the world who talk revolution, contemplate it or practise it, fear the principles and solidarity of the British monarchical system and never cease in their efforts to have it discredited or dethroned. Because of its very nature it is the final and only obstacle in their path to world dominion.

As Enoch Powell put it so succinctly, "The Queen cannot reverse the logic of independence nor perpetuate a happily diminishing delusion. Sooner or later she must come home to us, for to us she belongs --", "You don't have to justify monarchy. The necessity for a priest King is very deep in humanity. Men lose the satisfaction of these instincts at their peril. Our monarch is not a crowned president. She is appointed. She represents a supernatural element in the nation".

OMISSION

Our number 18 issue contained a profile of James Malcolm Newman. The article was contributed by Mr. J. Hobson from Queensland. We apologise for omitting the author's name.



A Queen Speaks to Her People

We first published this historical collection of Her Majesty's Christmas Messages in 1977. Certain to please as a gift.

Only a few copies remain, be sure to order immediately.

\$1.20 posted

Gift Suggestion

"EYES IN THE BACK OF MY HEAD"

by Frances Allen

The Heritage Society is pleased to announce that the author is willing to sell a supply of her book through this office.

Please order from (include payment):

Book Sales,
The Australian Heritage Society,
Box 16, Inglewood,
Western Australia, 6052.

Single Copy \$4.00 posted.

Have you thought of giving "Heritage"

Many of our permanent subscribers were once recipients of a gift subscription from a friend or relative.

"Heritage" makes an everlasting gift as well as providing both light and in-depth articles. Ideal for students. Why not try "Heritage" as a gift.

Send name and address of intended gift recipient to us. Don't forget to enclose your \$6.00 payment and leave the rest to us.

The visual message...

NEW ZEALAND FLAG
NOW AVAILABLE FOR
NEW ZEALAND READERS

Support the Heritage Society by purchasing and distributing as many stickers as possible.

They have many applications and will stick permanently to:

BUMPERS, WINDSCREENS, BICYCLES, SCHOOLBOOKS, and numerous other surfaces.

As the postage cost is now a major factor in our pricing we have made the minimum order 4 stickers and have reduced the prices as the quantity increases.



SET OF	4 STICKERS	— \$1.00 POSTED
10	”	— \$1.75 ”
20	”	— \$2.75 ”
50	”	— \$5.00 ”
100	”	— \$8.50 ”

ORDER FROM: BOX 16, INGLEWOOD, WESTERN AUSTRALIA 6052.

or Conservative Publications, Box 736, Tauranga, New Zealand

It's unwise to pay too much, but it's unwise to pay too little. When you pay too much you lose a little money, that is all. When you pay too little, you sometimes lose everything, because the thing you bought was incapable of doing the thing you bought it to do. The common law of business balance prohibits paying a little and getting a lot. It can't be done. If you deal with the lowest bidder, it's well to add something for the risk you run. And if you do that, you will have enough to pay for something better . . . *John Ruskin*

Associate Membership/Subscription

Post today!

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

_____ POSTCODE _____

I wish to apply for the following

- ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP \$10 per year
(includes "Heritage")
- "HERITAGE" SUBSCRIPTION \$6 per year
(Includes literature entitlement)
- COMBINED PERSONAL AND (\$10 per year)
GIFT SUBSCRIPTION *See details opposite*

GIFT SUBSCRIBER'S NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

_____ POSTCODE _____

All "HERITAGE" correspondence to:

**The Australian Heritage Society
Box 16, Inglewood, W.A. 6052.**

General enquiries to state address as shown in this brochure

"HERITAGE" GIFT SUBSCRIPTION

For a total of \$10 per annum we offer your own subscription plus a gift subscription posted anywhere in Australia. Details of donor will be supplied with first issue.



CHRISTMAS GIFT SUGGESTION

HERITAGE

Linking the past with the present — for the future

The Australian Heritage Society welcomes people of all ages to join in its programme for the regeneration of the spirit of Australia. To value the great spiritual realities that we have come to know and respect through our heritage, the virtues of patriotism, of integrity and love of truth, the pursuit of goodness and beauty, an unselfish concern for other people — to maintain a love and loyalty for those values.

Young Australians have a very real challenge before them. The Australian Heritage Society, with your support can give them the necessary lead in building a better Australia.

Make a start today by subscribing to HERITAGE. Every quarter you will receive a 24 page issue, packed with all sorts of items in defence of our heritage.

\$6 YEARLY

Write now to The Heritage Society in your State —

BOX 16, INGLEWOOD, W.A. 6052
BOX 1052J, MELBOURNE, VICTORIA 3001
BOX 2957, SYDNEY, NEW SOUTH WALES 2001
BOX 172, CHERMSIDE, QUEENSLAND 4032
BOX 270, McLAREN VALE, S.A. 5171