

HERITAGE

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Australian Heritage
Society

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LINKING THE PAST WITH THE PRESENT — FOR THE FUTURE



KEEP THE SPIRIT OF ANZAC ALIVE!



OFF TO SCHOOL

FRONT COVER

Painting of the Gallipoli landing by Charles Dixon
Photographed by John Swinfield, Anzac House, Sydney.

Will You Join the Fight?

"It was the gradual production of centuries of cumulative works of love which created expanding islands of light in the great ocean of barbaric hatred, cruelty and darkness that swept over western Europe after the disintegration and collapse of imperial Rome. History and observation alike show that the natural state of human society, unless redeemed and ennobled by this principle of creative love, is one either of anarchy or despotism..."

SIR ARTHUR BRYANT
The Lion and The Unicorn

That we have avoided, so far, the fate of many nations which have slipped beyond the veil of tyranny or anarchy is due in no small degree to two factors. The first, our Monarchical system of government, a heritage older than our nation's birth, has been a shield against the aspirations of those who would subject us to their tyranny. The second factor is what someone has described as our moral and spiritual capital, the values of an earlier Christian age that still gives our nation cohesion.

The Monarch and our Constitution are coming under increasing attack with many advocating the formation of a republic by the time of our bi-centennial celebrations. Whilst most people have an instinctive loyalty to our Monarch, many are swayed by the republican propaganda. But who can blame them! How can people evaluate the arguments when they are never told or taught the advantages of our present system. If our schools teach more about the governments of other nations than about our own institutions and the principles behind them, is it little wonder that to some the Monarchy is considered an anachronism and of no real significance in our modern age.

The Australian Heritage Society and its publication "Heritage" were formed, in part, in an endeavour to rectify this situation and create a better understanding of this priceless part of our heritage. There is still however, only a small minority that, to any degree, understand the significance of our Monarchy and it is this minority that has the knowledge

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 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 deter-
mined by our actions today."**

SIR RAPHAEL CILENTO
First Patron of The Australian Heritage Society

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to influence the course of our nation in the years ahead. A great deal therefore depends on our will to succeed and the way we organise ourselves.

Mr. Roy Stuckey, O.B.E., New South Wales State President of the Australian Heritage Society, has issued to us a challenge (see page 2) to do something practical for our nation by forming, and participating in, State branches. He has also challenged us with his personal example and I hope readers will accept his challenge and actively participate in the work of the Society.



Are State Branches Necessary and Desirable?

By Roy Stuckey, O.B.E., President — N.S.W. Branch

Formed in the year 1971, just one brief decade ago, the Australian Heritage Society has more than justified itself. In its early stages it depended upon the enthusiasm, energy and drive of individual persons located all over Australia.

A major step forward was the establishment less than six years ago of its splendid Journal, "Heritage" and during its relatively brief existence "Heritage" has performed a truly magnificent service, well known to members and far too important and varied for me to attempt to detail in this brief article. However, there is no doubt whatever of the need to support and develop still further this important aspect of the Australian Heritage Society.

What worries me, however, is the continued fragmentation of those who believe in the Aims and Objects of our Society as indicated in my opening paragraph. We are still depending too much on the individual efforts of individual persons rather than their collective efforts. No one would question the great importance of persons working for a cause as enthusiastic individuals but I post the question — "is this form of contribution adequate at this stage and, if not so, how can the position be improved?" I contend, with respect, that New South Wales has solved the problem. In the year 1977, appropriately the year of the Silver Jubilee of the Accession to The Throne of Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II, the members in this State decided to form a New South Wales Branch of the Society, to elect office bearers and an Executive, to meet regularly and sharpen up the campaign for our objectives.

This Branch Organisation comprising a President, two Vice Presidents, Hon. Secretary, Hon. Treasurer and Executive Committee of seven, set up only five years ago, has flourished amazingly. We have an Annual Meeting in the month of February, the Executive meets regularly and a quarterly Presidential Newsletter is forwarded to all members. We have distributed tens of thousands of brochures and leaflets, sold over one quarter of a million of our own devised flag stickers for envelopes, as well as flag stickers, flag brooches and the like and from the profits on these sales, which have extended throughout Australia, plus members' subscriptions of \$4.00, and generous donations, we have been able to distribute our two main brochures, "Australia's Queen" and "Keep our Flag Flying," free to children and the public.

A PATRIOTIC SOCIETY WITH PRIDE IN ITS COUNTRY

On Anzac Day each year most of our Executive are engaged on the route of the March distributing leaflets, selling flags etc. Scores of organisations of all kinds have sought our help in providing speakers on our Australian Heritage and Flag and our organisation has gained wide recognition for what it is — a patriotic Society with pride in its Country, its traditions and its democratic monarchical form of Government.

Not the least of our activities has been the campaign for the flying of the Australian Flag on school flagpoles and we can claim a considerable share of the success attained in that field.

The foregoing are at least some of our achievements and I maintain that virtually none of them would have taken place had it not been for the existence of a State Branch.

Remember also that these results have been achieved by a relatively small band of enthusiastic and dedicated individuals — as an Organised Branch.

STATE BRANCHES

This brings me to the whole object of this article, why have members of the Society living in the various States of Australia not acted to create active State Branches? Surely the advantages of such action are clearly evident by our experience in New South Wales. All it needs is a few enthusiastic people in each Capital City to meet together as a first step. Surely there must be some retired person or persons, like myself, who are willing to help and take the initiative.

May I suggest with respect that someone — some person who believes strongly enough as I do — take the initiative and insert a paragraph in the next issue of "Heritage" inviting persons interested to contact them with the object of holding a meeting. I feel that it should be possible to do this in every State without undue difficulty and it would mean so much to the spread and further development of our objectives. It would also be a means of combatting those who regularly raise their voices, loudly at times, in their attempts to alter our Constitution, our Flag and almost everything else we believe in. Should Heritage Society members in any State take any positive action towards the formation of a Branch, I promise all the support and advice they may require from this Branch and myself as President.

In conclusion may I make an appeal to all Heritage members, wherever they may be, to work harder for what they believe in, to develop a membership drive for the Society and subscription to "Heritage Journal" and to remember always our motto, "Linking the Past with the Present for the Future."

"Cutting off your past is not a good way to prepare for your future."



FLAG DEFENDED BY PRIME MINISTER

Australia will not get a new flag nor a rewritten national song, according to Mr. Fraser.

The Prime Minister said on February 4th that he did not favour a change of flag and the Cabinet had decided against having the words of "Advance Australia Fair" changed.

Mr. Fraser believed the present Australian flag was typically Australian, even though it featured the Union Jack.

"That shows part of our heritage, part of the origins from which many Australians have come," he said.

"But it is also very distinctly an Australian flag, it is not somebody else's flag.

"The kind of concern, regard, affection, love that I have for Australia does not depend on flags, on changing a flag..."

"Cutting off your past is not a good way to prepare for your future."

Mr. Fraser admitted that Cabinet had considered whether it should take formal steps to have the words of "Advance Australia Fair" changed but had decided to take no action.

He denied that the Cabinet discussion had been provoked by a complaint from Mrs. Fraser that people did not know the words of the song.

"Advance Australia Fair," written in 1878 by Peter Dodds McCormack, has long been attacked as being sexist and too pro-British for a national song.

It refers only to Australia's sons, not daughters.

The final words of one verse are: "Britannia then shall surely know beyond wide oceans roll, her sons in fair Australia's lands, still keep a British soul!"

Readers wishing to correspond with Mr. Stuckey are asked to write direct to:

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THE ANZACS

by

SIR COLIN HINES, O.B.E.,
State President,
THE RETURNED SERVICES LEAGUE OF AUSTRALIA,
(New South Wales Branch)



Their lessons and inspirations and the need for more national development of patriotism, love of our Country and respect for our Flag.

INTRODUCTION

Each Anzac Day, 25th April, Australians remember a major feat of arms credited with our recognition as a Nation. John Masefield, before he became the Poet Laureate, described the Gallipoli Campaign in his book "Gallipoli;" not as a tragedy, nor as a mistake, but as (quote) '...a great human effort which came very near to triumph, achieved the impossible many times and failed, in the end' (for it was a defeat '...as many great deeds of arms have failed, from something which had nothing to do with arms nor with the men who bore them. That the effort failed is not against it; much that is most splendid in history failed, many great things and many noble men have failed... No army in history has made a more heroic attack; no army in history has been set such a task... No other troops in the world...would have made good those beaches on the 25th April, 1915'. (unquote).

It was with such inspiration that Australians ever since have acquitted themselves in battle. Yet we have difficulty developing a nation at peace. Note the incidence of union confrontations, demarcation disputes and political acrimony eroding our collective welfare. Is patriotism dead or, as another Anzac Day approaches, should we not re-dedicate ourselves to our Country and cherish the heritage we have?

ANZAC

Were the Anzacs patriotic? Perhaps that is an unfair question. In one sense, they were indeed intensely patriotic, but their patriotism was almost subconscious until the challenge of actual combat when they all set out to prove they were Australians, men from a far off land, but true patriots. They did not care to be called British except in a general sense; they were Australians and the enemy very soon recognised the fact, as did senior officers of many other Commonwealth countries, sometimes to their chagrin.

Australians did not join the forces to serve in far off countries from patriotism alone. The war was far from Australia's shores in 1914. There was no immediate threat to their homeland, but they did see freedom threatened and took up a more righteous challenge, to protect Christian democratic freedom, as they knew it. Patriotism tended to come later. Yet others, at least until their first battle, took the opportunity offered 'to see the world'. The urge for young Australians to travel is with us still and may it always be present, together with the associated spirit of adventure, in lands no more than names in books and scenes on film.

Rather than patriotism, even under fire, the Australian Diggers — members of the now famous Australian-New Zealand Army Corps (ANZAC) — were known for quiet heroism in battle. Such men as John Simpson, the Man with the Donkey, who



SIR COLIN HINES, O.B.E.
State President
The Returned Services League of Australia,
(New South Wales Branch)

took upon himself the task of moving the wounded down the shrapnel and bullet scarred tracks to the beach at Gallipoli, epitomised the quiet sacrifice. He gave his life together with 8,586 other Australians in the Gallipoli Campaign. Many of the 20,000 wounded in that battle-scarred few acres owe him their lives. Colonel (later General Sir John) Monash lauded Simpson and his C.O. considered him for a V.C., but he was in the company of heroes and no posthumous decoration was awarded, though he was 'Mentioned in Despatches'.

The Returned Services League of Australia has perpetuated the memory of Simpson and his Donkey in the nation-wide Annual Anzac Award Medallions. These consist of the Silver Anzac Peace Prize awarded 'in recognition of outstanding efforts in promoting international understanding and contribution to world peace', and the bronze Anzac of the Year Awards. The Peace Prize and Awards were started in 1979. Seven Anzac of the Year Awards are selected each year by a distinguished Selection Panel from submissions from all State Branches.



SIMPSON AND HIS DONKEY CARTING A WOUNDED SOLDIER.

A linked chain surrounding the embossed figures of Simpson and his Donkey carrying a wounded soldier, symbolises our strength and unity. Symbolism of the chain to show both unity and strength in our national life has not been accidental; both are essential to the future of Australia. In commemorating the illustrious deeds of our forefathers at Gallipoli, through the peace-loving figure of Simpson, we show the qualities of humility with strength and consideration for our fellow men. The feats at Gallipoli inspired a fledgling nation into maturity, but are we able to sustain the image so hard won, or are we to succumb, as a Nation, to the easy life of short working hours, the pursuit of leisure, the breakdown of family life and the surrender of democratic freedom to the forces of totalitarian socialism making inroads to our lives today?

There are serious questions concerning our heritage. Are Australians able to meet the challenge of the 1980's towards a glorious Centennial Anniversary of Federation celebration in 2001; of one hundred years of growth and freedom as an independent Nation? Or will our steps falter and our democratic way of life be lost before the end of the century?

Australians born and those from some 85 countries who have joined us since the Second World War — 1939-45 — must encourage unity, which alone can in turn provide the strength of moral fortitude to honour the Anzac's sacrifice.

There is no need to remind readers of the Anzacs fortitude, courage and resourcefulness; or their patriotism, either. Subsequent wars have shown Australian's rising courageously to meet further challenge.

Fewer perhaps have since faced the carnage at Gallipoli and France that was faced in World War I, but there is greater diversity than ever before in our population today. Many of our new settlers know from bitter experience, how insidious and formidable the enemy is, but until all are forged into one nation with strong and resolute leadership, we can only aspire to greater nationhood, with little chance of success.

ONE NATIONAL FLAG

Let us have one national flag; one national anthem; one defence policy; and a democratically elected government reflecting the will of the majority of Australians — not bending to the noise of minority voices, loud though they be, but a country united in purpose; prepared to protect our freedom by any means at our disposal. Accepting the minorities' right to seek change, but they in their turn using fair means, not foul, to convince the remainder to adjust if necessary. This unity of purpose breeds true patriotism and that is our Country's major need.

If we can establish a national consensus with Australians considering themselves as one Nation, then suitable means to defend ourselves will readily follow. How do we establish a standard of patriotism and respect for our Flag?

SCHOOLS

Our enemies recognised long before us, that they should first capture the minds of the young, if they were to rule the world. Australia's short history is already being distorted to support proposals for a new national flag and some schools in the State of New South Wales in 1981, failed to acknowledge Remembrance Day for our Fallen on 11th November, previously known as Armistice Day. Some education authorities are now apparently prepared to accept a so-called local population opinion on such matters as recognising national days. Do they suggest we honour each of the 140 or 150 countries now represented in our

We have the lead of the ANZACS for inspiration...

population, or are we to retain our British traditions and our own national days? What better way to subvert children's minds than to ignore or distort the importance of remembering 73,000 who died in war for our freedom. All Australians aware of our heritage and culture must insist upon, not less but greater recognition of the few nationally significant days in our patriotic calendar. We must ensure our local schools are NOT overtaken by misguided teachers espousing a foreign ideology, not based upon the proven Christian ethic and British Common Law. This is not to exclude information to our children, but the emphasis on honour, truthfulness and conscience in our cultural tradition is too important a responsibility to leave with those teachers (we trust they are few in number) who subtly corrupt young minds and further damage our basic family social structure.

Activities such as School Cadets, with minimal emphasis on actual military type skills, are ideal venues for development of honourable character traits as well as helping develop physical fitness and love of country. The dangers of drugs of all kinds and basic human physiology must be taught in our schools, without emphasis on the unnatural or extreme minorities who tend to gain so much media attraction.

The R.S.L. has long supported Youth Clubs and Day Care Clubs, the latter for the benefit of the aged and the infirm in our community. Our Youth Clubs accept people up to the age of 25 years, but Australia's long-term future may well depend upon our defence preparedness. Those in the 18 to 25 years age group traditionally provide the core of a nation's Defence Force and we firmly believe that all young men and women should contribute at least one year of service to the community, either in the defence forces or as civilians helping some public work or social endeavour.

NATIONAL SERVICE

If young people allotted one year to full-time service to their Country and an extended period of part-time service, we believe the spirit of patriotism or love of country could be enhanced. Obviously those who elected military service would contribute to the defence preparedness of our Nation. Those who elected to participate in public utilities, local Government, hospitals and the like would also contribute to the nation's welfare in a satisfying way. Such a contribution widens a young person's interest from normal work specialisation, be it in office or factory or elsewhere. Combined with experience in School Cadets, our young citizens would have wide ranging interests and experience contributing to well balanced character and maturity.

There are many difficulties raised by opponents of universal national service, but its potential must soon be viewed seriously by our national leaders, if the divisive trends in our population are to be arrested.

DEFENCE

On a visit to Russia some years ago, we were most impressed by the bearing and behaviour of their youth. We had little opportunity to study members of the Armed Forces but, if they followed the apparent dedication of the youth in Russia we, in the West, have a serious problem. Subject only to adequate amounts of public funds, the Armed Forces of any nation will reflect the attitude of the youth of that nation. Disciplined, dedicated, well-educated youth will not produce decadent, drug dependant and inefficient troops.

For the defence of Australia, the lesson is obvious. We must at least maintain, if not improve our standards of education and physical fitness. Although no measure of physical fitness was involved in the following example, a recent report stated that in one large town in New South Wales, 61% of applicants for apprenticeships were unable to pass the simple mathematics examination set. Evidently this education lack would place some 5 of every 8 school leavers outside of regular trade training opportunities. We are assured the rest of Australia is not so disadvantaged, but the information is distressing. What a blow to the parents and how could you advise the so-called students that their education lack was not their fault, but ours.

Education and general Youth Support Schemes MUST be encouraged and Universal National Service needs further consideration, despite certain political implications.

For defence in general, the R.S.L. stands for a balanced independent self-defence force, capable of working with our Allies as required, but basically armed for the defence of Australia and her trade routes. We should apply at least 5% of Gross National Product to our defence, including Civil Defence preparation and training. Our present allocation is about 3% G.N.P.

We have the lead of the Anzacs for inspiration; our British heritage is evident and should be retained in our flag and we, the silent majority, must pay more attention to the education of our youth if we are to save Australia from an unthinkable future. The motto of the Australian Heritage Society aptly states, "Let us link the past with the present — for the future." To that, for the majority of Australians, we should add the R.S.L. motto "The Price of Liberty is Eternal Vigilance."

God Save The Queen.

THE QUEEN'S CHRISTMAS MESSAGE 1981

**“...He showed the supreme
example of physical and
moral courage.”**

Last July we had the joy of seeing our eldest son married amid scenes of great happiness, which made 1981 a very special year for us. The wonderful response the Wedding evoked was very moving.

Just before that there had been a very different scene in the garden at Buckingham Palace when three and a half thousand disabled people, with their families, came to tea with us. And, with members of my family, I have just met some more disabled people who came here to receive special cars which will give them the mobility they so desperately need. We handed over the keys of the new cars and also talked to handicapped people who have had their cars for some time.

The International Year of Disabled People has performed a very real service by focussing our attention on their problems. We have all become more aware of them and I am sure that many of you, like myself, have been impressed by the courage they show.

There are, of course, many aspects of courage. There is the physical courage shown in war. Chesterton described it as “almost a contra-

diction in terms.....a strong desire to live taking the form of a readiness to die.” It is sobering and inspiring to remember what man will do for an ideal in which he believes.

Bravery of this kind is shown in peace as well as in war. The armed forces and the police are showing it every day. So are the fire services, ambulance drivers, members of the public and even children — and the courage of the bomb disposal experts fills us with awe. All around us we see these acts of selflessness, people putting the life of someone else before their own.

Then there is perseverance, sticking to the job. This is how the disabled have learnt to cope with life, becoming better people in the process. Their courage in handling their difficulties and in many cases living an almost normal life, or making abnormal life normal, shows our own problems to be insignificant in comparison.

It is not only the disabled who are showing day to day perseverance and courage. This Christmas we should remember especially — the people of Northern Ireland who are attempting to live ordinary lives in times of strain and conflict; the unemployed who are trying to maintain their self respect without work and to care for their



families; and those from other parts of the Commonwealth who have come to Britain to make new lives but have not yet found themselves fully accepted.

Perhaps the greatest contribution of the disabled is to give the inspiration and incentive to do more to help others. From this we can gain the strength to try to do that little bit extra, as individuals, as members of our families and as nations.

We have seen in 1981 how many individuals have devoted themselves to trying to make life more tolerable for handicapped people, by giving loving care and by providing money and effort to improve facilities and to hasten research. There are four hundred and fifty million disabled people in the world, but wonderful work is being done in the prevention and cure of disablement. Diseases like polio and measles can be controlled by a very cheap multiple vaccine. In the last twelve years the Royal Commonwealth Society for the Blind has restored sight to over one million Commonwealth citizens.

But throughout this century there have been great advances in the awakening of conscience and concern for our fellow human beings. Governments now regard it as their duty to try to protect their people, through social services, from the worst effects of illness, bereavement, joblessness and disability.

We are also trying to reach beyond a nation's responsibility for its own citizens. There is a wide disparity between the wealth of nations and I have found that there is a spirit of eagerness to redress this throughout the world.

I have spoken of courage in its different forms and of the effect a display of courage can have on the world in which we live. Ultimately, however, we accept in our hearts that most important of all is moral courage. As human beings we generally know what is right and how we should act and speak. But we are also very aware of how difficult it is to have the courage of our convictions.

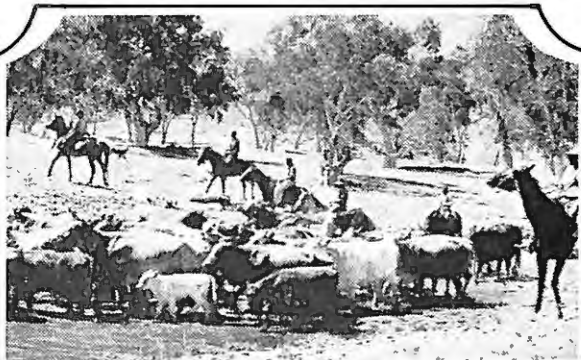
Our Christian faith helps us to sustain those convictions. Christ not only revealed to us the truth in His teachings. He lived by what he believed and gave us the strength to try to do the same — and, finally, on the Cross, He showed the supreme example of physical and moral courage.

That sacrifice was the dawn of Christianity and this is why at Christmas time we are inspired by the example of Christ as we celebrate His birth.

A few weeks ago I was sent this poem:

*"When all your world is torn with grief
and strife
Think yet — when there seems nothing left
to mend
The frail and time-worn fabric of your life,
The Golden thread of courage has no end."*

So to you all I say — God bless you, and a very happy Christmas.



PIONEERS

They came of bold and roving stock
that would not fixed abide;
They were the sons of field and flock
since e'er they learnt to ride
We may not hope to see such men in
these degenerate years
As those explorers of the bush — the
brave old pioneers.

'Twas they who rode the trackless bush
in heat and storm and drought;

'Twas they who heard the master-word
that called them farther out;

'Twas they who followed up the trail
the mountain cattle made,
And pressed across the mighty range
where now their bones are laid.

But now the times are dull and slow,
the brave old days are dead

When hardy bushmen started out, and
forced their way ahead

By tangled scrub and forests grim
towards the unknown west,

And spied at last the promised land
from off the range's crest.

O ye that sleep in lonely graves by
distant ridge and plain,

We drink to you in silence now as
Christmas comes again,

To you who fought the wilderness
through rough unsettled years —
The founders of our nation's life,
the brave old pioneers.

A.B. (BANJO) PATERSON

HUGHENDEN AND WEST WYCOMBE

By Alan Howe



The following article and a number to follow in future issues of HERITAGE are extracts from my diary of my first visit to the United Kingdom in 1980. My visit was for four months and thus took in much of what is unique to Britain and now I would like to share some of these interesting highlights with you. I left Sydney in April and on landing in London made my way to High Wycombe in Buckinghamshire and the following places.

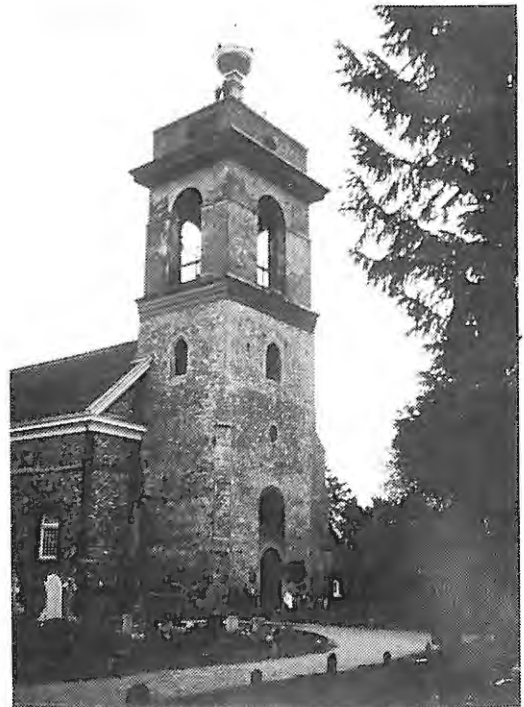
One rather damp afternoon I set off to West Wycombe to view Hughenden Manor which was the home of Disraeli, one of Queen Victoria's Prime Ministers. In the mid 1800's he was created Earl of Beaconsfield. At the time of the Conquest, Hughenden (name signifies the dene or valley of the Hitchen) Manor was granted to Odo, Bishop of Bayeux. It later reverted to the Crown, and Henry I bestowed it on his Chamberlain and Treasurer, Geoffrey de Clinton. The latter gave the Manor to the Priory of Kenilworth which he founded in 1122.

At the dissolution of the monasteries in 1538, Hughenden was granted to Sir Robert Dormer. Dormers were notable Catholics of Buckinghamshire and their lands included West Wycombe Manor where Princess Elizabeth was for a time placed in the custody of Sir William Dormer.

In 1737 Hughenden passed into the possession of the Dormer Stanhope family. The Manor was then sold to Charles Savage (d. 1763) who was succeeded by his brother Samuel (d. 1771). When Samuel died the property went to his nephew, John Norris (Sheriff for Buckingham in 1775). In 1786 it passed to a cousin, Countess Conyngham, then to another John Norris who died in 1845. Three years later Benjamin Disraeli acquired Hughenden. Disraeli lived there till his death in 1881. The National Trust now control the House.

In 1847 Disraeli felt strongly that as the potential leader of the Conservatives it was fitting that he should be a landed proprietor, and so purchased Hughenden for £35,000.

On the east the ground falls abruptly away through magnificent beeches to a stream below, and, on the south, the lawns flanked by trees offer a distant view over Wycombe and the hills beyond. Almost every autumn after 1849, when Parliament was in recess, Disraeli and his wife retreated to their new property. The house Disraeli bought was a stuccoed, oblong, three-storey building, mainly dating from the late eighteenth century. In 1862-63 Mrs. Disraeli wholly remodelled it in accordance with the taste of the period. The Gothic Architect E. B. Lamb was called in and added the ornamental parapet, and the Gothic decoration which inside and out gives it today its distinctive flavour. Mrs. Disraeli died in 1872.



Church of St. Lawrence (with golden ball at top of tower).

Receiving the Queen

Disraeli's years in office (1874-80) inevitably kept him in London, but in the winter of 1877 he was at Hughenden to receive the Queen. Her visit to the house was informal and there were present only Princess Beatrice and one or two members of the

Household. The Queen lunched with her Minister and later planted a tree (it fell in 1917). The Queen's visit was more than a mark of personal esteem but rather indicated the Queen's confident approval of her Prime Minister's handling of the Eastern Question.

Disraeli died in 1881 and gave instructions that his body should return to Hughenden. He is buried, beside his wife, in the graveyard at Hughenden Church.

Driving through the lovely Hughenden Valley, St. Michael's Church, the Church in the park, is seen nestling on its hillside with the sixteenth century Church house alongside it. At the top of the hill is Hughenden Manor.

The present Church is largely a Victorian building. The original consisting only of what is now the chancel. A small Chapel and a bell tower were added in the eighteenth century on the north side. By 1870 the Church was in a very bad state of repair, and the Vicar, Cannon Blagdon, set about rebuilding it. He raised the floor of the chancel, altered the roof pitch, rebuilt the nave, moved and raised the tower.

The memorial to Benjamin Disraeli, Earl of Beaconsfield and Viscount Hughenden, in the chancel is unique in that it is the only example of a memorial in a parish Church erected by a reigning Sovereign to one of her subjects. The Banner and Insignia of the Order of the Garter which hangs beside the memorial were removed from St. George's Chapel, Windsor, to their present position at the express wish of Queen Victoria. Below the memorial a brass plate indicates the seat in the chancel which the Earl occupied as lay rector and owner of the Great Tithe.

The Disraeli tomb in the Churchyard is a large crypt containing the remains of a number of members of the Disraeli family. It was finally sealed when the last member of the family was buried there in 1967. For the Earl's funeral, use was made of the natural slope of the ground from west to east, and a cutting was dug to the door of the crypt enabling the bearers to carry the coffin right into the crypt.

Nearby at West Wycombe is the Church of St. Lawrence. The site has been the location of a Church since about 1230 and the present Church dates from 1752-62 when Sir Francis Dashwood had the medieval Church restored. The cost was £6,000.

The old nave was demolished and rebuilt, interior stripped and remodelled, and a further stage added to the tower, surmounted by the famous Golden Ball. The walls of the chancel and the lower part of the tower are all that remain of the earlier building. The Church re-opened on 3rd July 1763.

The nave ceiling was designed from fragments found in the ruined Temple of the Sun at Palmyra. There are sixteen porphyry columns and magnifi-

cent plaster frieze. Over the chancel arch is the Royal coat of arms. Moving through to the chancel can be seen the High Altar, semi-circular rails and wooden reredos flanked by the Lord's Prayer and the Creed. On both sides of the chancel are Dashwood monuments and pews, other congregants sit out in the nave of the Church.

The ceiling of the chancel depicts the Last Supper by Giovanni Borgnis. The right eye of Judas follows the beholder in every direction around the chancel. The family of craftsmen named Borgnis were brought to England from Northern Italy in 1751 by Sir Francis Dashwood.

The Church tower is 80' (26m) high. It houses eight bells, the earliest dating from 1581. The Golden Ball, which rises a further 20' (7m), is 646' above sea level. The design is derived from the Customs Building in Venice by Palladio, and is made of wood, covered with gold leaf on canvas. Within it seven yards diameter, the ball can seat eight people and offers an unobstructed view across Buckinghamshire countryside for many miles. Sir Francis used to invite his friends to drink with him in the ball; in letters, John Wilkes referred to the 'Divine Punch' he drank there with his host and Lord Sandwich, and the bawdy songs they sang together. From the tower 360° panoramas are enjoyed and at the foot of the hill is the village of West Wycombe and beyond is West Wycombe House, the home of the Dashwood family.



Interior of Hughenden Manor with the elegance of yesteryear.



Hughenden Manor—a stately building in beautiful surroundings.

Coats of Arms and Emblems

AUSTRALIA

The first official coat of arms of Australia was granted by royal warrant of King Edward VII in 1908. Long after it became officially obsolete, this coat of arms continued to be used on some Australian coins and it still appeared on the sixpenny piece until 1966.

The present coat of arms was granted by King George V in 1912. The arms consist of a shield containing the badges of the six States of Australia, enclosed by an ermine border signifying federation. The crest is a seven-pointed gold star on a blue and gold wreath, the six points representing the States and the seventh the territories. The supporters are a kangaroo and an emu. Usually the arms are depicted with an adornment of wattle and a scroll bearing the word "Australia" under the arms.

Despite popular tradition, the Commonwealth of Australia has never adopted any official motto or floral, animal or bird emblem or national colours.

For many years the motto "Advance Australia" appeared on unofficial coats of arms, even before federation of the States in 1901, and was popularly accepted in association with the song of the same name. By tradition the golden wattle, kangaroo and emu are widely accepted as national floral, animal and bird emblems.

After federation the colours red, white and blue were accepted as representative of Australia on patriotic occasions. These are the colours of the Australian flag and were

inherited from the Union Jack of Great Britain. International sporting teams representing Australia have usually worn green and gold. However, Australian governments have sometimes favoured blue and gold (the colours of the wreath on the coat of arms) and adopted these colours for the insignia of the Order of Australia in recent years. Blue and gold were also worn by the Australian team at the Commonwealth Games in 1978.

QUEENSLAND

In 1893 a coat of arms was granted to the then colony of Queensland by Queen Victoria, after whom the colony was named. This revived a practice which had been abandoned for more than 200 years and became the first grant of arms to a British colony since that assigned to Jamaica by Charles II in 1661. Queen Elizabeth II, during her Silver Jubilee visit in 1977, assigned to the arms, granted by her great-great-grandmother, the distinction of supporters — a red deer and a brolga. The red deer, (*Cervus elaphus*) which thrives in southern Queensland, is a Royal Beast, first sent as a gift by Queen Victoria. It symbolises the links with the Old World, while the Brolga (*Grus rubicundus*) is an indigenous bird to represent the native-born Queenslanders.

The motto of Queensland *Audax at Fidelis* (Bold, Aye, but Faithful Too) is embodied in the description of the coat of arms. The State's floral emblem is the Cooktown Orchid (*Dendrobium bigibbum*), proclaimed in 1959 and its animal emblem the Koala (*Phascolarctos cinereus*), proclaimed in 1971. The State has no official bird emblem and no proclaimed State colours, but sporting teams traditionally use the colour maroon for uniforms and pennants.



AUSTRALIA

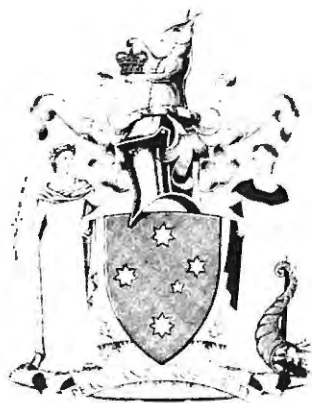
NEW SOUTH WALES

King Edward VII granted a coat of arms to the State of New South Wales in 1906. The description of the arms embodies the motto, *Orta Recens Quam Pura Nites* (Newly Risen, How Bright Thou Shonest). The State's floral emblem is the Waratah (*Telopea speciosissima*), proclaimed in 1962, the bird emblem the Kookaburra (*Dacelo gigas*), proclaimed in 1971 and the animal emblem the Platypus (*Ornithorhynchus anatinus*), also proclaimed in 1971.

There are no official State colours, but sporting teams traditionally wear blue, the colour of the field on the State badge.

VICTORIA

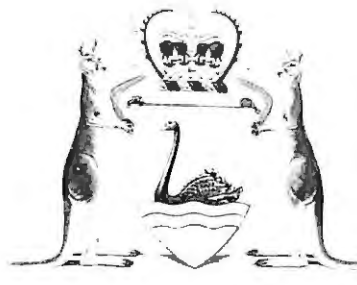
In 1910 King George V granted a coat of arms to the State named after his grandmother. The description of the arms embodies the motto, Peace and Prosperity. The State's floral emblem is the Pink Heath (*Epacris impressa*), proclaimed in 1958, the bird emblem is the Helmeted Honey-eater (*Lichenostomus melanopus*), also called the Yellow-tufted Honey-eater and several other names, which was proclaimed in 1971, and the animal emblem is Leadbeater's Possum (*Gymnobelideus leadbeateri*), also proclaimed in 1971. The official colours of the State are azure and argent (blue and silver).



VICTORIA



SOUTH AUSTRALIA



WESTERN AUSTRALIA



AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

TASMANIA

The coat of arms of the island State was granted by King George V in 1917 and the description of the arms embodied the motto, *Ubertas et Fidelitas* (Productiveness and Faithfulness). The supporters in the arms are two Tasmanian Tigers or Marsupial Wolves (*Thylacinus cynocephalus*), which in modern times has been found only in Tasmania and is now possibly extinct.

The floral emblem of the State is the Tasmanian Bluegum (*Eucalyptus globulus*), proclaimed in 1962. There are no bird or animal emblems or officially proclaimed colours. Representative sporting teams wear green and gold.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

The coat of arms was granted by King George V in 1936, the centennial year of the State. The description of the coat of arms embodies the motto, Faith and Courage. The State's floral emblem is Sturt's Desert Pea (*Clianthus formosus*), proclaimed in 1961. The bird emblem, proclaimed in 1904, is officially called the Piping Shrike (*Gymnorhina tibicen*), although that name is not known to most Australians, who call it the Magpie. The animal emblem is the Hairy-nosed Wombat (*Lasiornhinus latifrons*), proclaimed in 1970. The State colours are red, navy blue and gold.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

The distinctive emblem of Western Australia had its origin in 1696, when the Dutch captain Willem de Vlamingh discovered black swans, then unknown to the world, and named the Swan River. In 1829 British settlers established the Swan River

Colony and their successors adopted an unofficial coat of arms which featured the black swan and the present motto, a Latin pun *Cygnis Insignis* (Distinguished by its Swans). The emblem was given official sanction when Queen Elizabeth granted arms to the State of Western Australia in 1969.

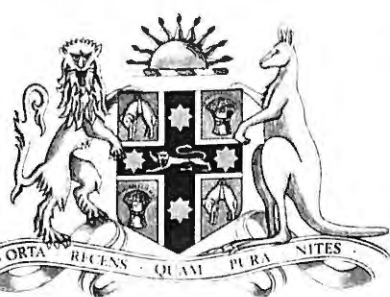
The State's floral emblem is the Kangaroo Paw (*Anigosanthus manglesii*), proclaimed in 1960, the bird emblem the Black Swan (*Cygnus atratus*), proclaimed in 1973 and the animal emblem the Numbat or Banded Anteater (*Myrmecobius fasciatus*), proclaimed in 1973. There are no official colours but sporting teams traditionally wear black and gold, representing the black swan and the State's position as the largest source of Australian gold. The colours are adopted from the State badge, a black swan on a gold background.

THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

Until the Territory was granted self-government on 1 July 1978 it was administered by the Federal Government and used the national coat of arms.

The first coat of arms of the territory was approved in 1978 and the final drawing is not yet completed. The shield contains Aboriginal motifs, with two Red Kangaroos as supporters and a Wedge-tailed Eagle as the crest. Sturt's Desert Rose is also featured, which makes this the only Australian coat of arms to embody the bird, animal and floral emblems.

The floral emblem is Sturt's Desert Rose (*Gossypium sturtianum*), proclaimed in 1964, the bird emblem the Wedge-tailed Eagle (*Aquila audax*), proclaimed in 1975, and the animal emblem the Red Kangaroo



NEW SOUTH WALES



QUEENSLAND



TASMANIA

(*Macropus rufus*), also proclaimed in 1975. The territory colours widely accepted are those of the flag — black, white and ochre — which are the basic colours used in Aboriginal painting.

THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

The coat of arms of the Territory was granted by King George V in 1928 to the Federal Capital Commissioners and their successors. It contains many symbols of sovereignty, authority and justice, including the Rose of York, which commemorates the inauguration of Canberra as the Seat of Government by the Duke of York (later King George VI) in 1927. The supporters are a Black Swan and White Swan, symbolising the Aboriginal and European races.

The motto originally embodied in the coat of arms was that of the City of Perth, ancient capital of Scotland — *Pro Rege, Lege et Grege*. (For the King, the Law and the People). Upon the succession of Queen Elizabeth II, the word King was replaced by Queen.

The Territory has no floral, bird or animal emblem and no official colours. The colours worn by the majority of sporting teams are blue and gold.

Recipe for Life

Take two parts of unselfishness and one of patience.

Work them together, add plenty of industry, lighten with good spirits, and sweeten with kindness.

Add good deeds, and back with warmth from a tender heart.

Try to achieve something and forget about success.

Only those who have the patience to do simple things perfectly, acquire the skill to do difficult things easily.

Please

**Doors, will open with ease,
To very, very little Keys
And don't forget that two of these
Are, "I Thank you" and "If you please?"**

The visual message...

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Culture — A Reflection of Values

by Jeanette Wallis

Art for art's sake, indeed living simply because one is alive, is sterile and pointless. In everything worthwhile there must be a purpose.

If we look beyond the creation to the creator, beyond the prophecy to the prophet, we can begin to understand the meaning of his handiwork and vision.

Truly human effort is not haphazard. It has a purpose, for humans are endowed with the capacity to reason. We have the intellect to comprehend and predict consequences.

So with literature, music and art — only when we understand the personality and the philosophy of the writer, the composer or the artist can we really grasp the essence and the purpose of his creation.

The man of literary genius is a creator, a prophet and a teacher. He weaves words and thoughts which are music to the heart. He has a vision and guides us to it.

BEAUTY TO BEHOLD

The great composer translates his inspiration into song, often for a thankless, contemptuous and even antagonistic world.

The true artist is endowed with the genius and the will to transform his perception of beauty into something we can behold.

Their quest is to show the world the beauty of Creation, and to point us beyond to the Creator.

As with all human endeavour, the worth of music, literature and art is revealed by history, for creative genius and expressed truth transcend time, and the creators, the intermediaries between God and man, are thus immortalised.

What of the modern cult who clamour for recognition? So much of what passes today for artistic creation bears the mark of the beast — it is hideous and grotesque, a reflection of the personality responsible for its existence. It does not open our eyes to beauty which would otherwise pass us by, nor calm our troubled spirit when we seek refuge from the turmoil and anguish of the world.

The creative genius of this generation has been perverted — all but a very few have been denied access to the riches of our cultural inheritance, the source of wisdom and inspiration. Fed on lies, encouraged to express feelings and to spurn discipline, we have been blinded to the beauty of life. And we can only reproduce the discordant, angry visions of frustrated, rebellious youth.

Embodied in today's music, art and literature are to be found personalities which have been stifled. Rejecting the values, restraints and responsibilities necessary for individual freedom, the "cultural elite" demand the rights which can only come with their acceptance.

The hope of any society rests not on an intellectual elite able to benevolently dictate to the people what is best, but on the development of mature, responsible individuals who are able and prepared to predict and accept the consequences of their actions. And this demands the regeneration of the Christian family, in which the child is nurtured and loved by parents worthy of their calling.

TRUE FREEDOM

Responsibility is ultimately based on the concept of trinity, for we are responsible to God, to others, and to ourselves, for all our actions.

If this attitude is allowed to govern our lives, and is seen to do so, we will realise true freedom and our creative talent will once again reflect the glory of God's creation.

"Great are the works of the Lord,
studied by all who have pleasure in them.
Full of honour and majesty is his work,
and his righteousness endures forever.
He has caused his wonderful works to be
remembered;
The Lord is gracious and merciful!"

[Psalm 111:2-4]



JUNIOR REPORTERS

A PAGE FOR THE YOUNG TO DEVELOP A PRIDE IN THEIR HERITAGE.

Boys and girls are invited to contribute to this page.

FIND STORIES FROM PARENTS AND GRANDPARENTS
FROM LOCAL IDENTITIES
ABOUT YOUR TOWN AND CITY

Articles to be a maximum of 300 words and please write your name and address on the back of any photos and supply a stamped addressed envelope if you wish them to be returned.



THE LITTLE DAM BUILDER

In the early 1930s, although tractors were fairly common, the draught horse was still very much used because his "fuel" could be grown on the farm, while because of the Depression, the tractor was too costly to buy and to run. So it was that the farmer was having his dam sunk by a contractor using a big scoop, pulled by a team of enormous horses.

As the sweating team strained and wheeled on the job, the farmer's son, a solitary little boy, accustomed to amusing himself, worked on the roadside, digging and scraping his own little dam, faithful in every detail to the contractor's job nearby.

When evening came, and the man unhitched his team and walked them past on the way home, the little boy was still there, looking with awe at the great beasts trudging past. The contractor halted them level with the tiny dam and complimented the lad on his efforts. "Well done, sonny! I wonder if you'd like to borrow my team now to finish it off?"

Gazing up at the great placid beasts, the two front hoofs of any of which would have entirely filled his dam, the lad was quick with his reply. "No thank you, Mister. They — well, they look a bit tired, I think!"

CONTRIBUTED BY MEREMIE, AGED 16,
OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA.
(from a story told by her father)



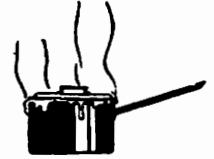
WATERWHEEL

This picture shows the waterwheel which was used last century to pump water for the use of people keeping the Cape Leeuwen lighthouse. Over the years the mineralised water has turned the wooden and metal wheel to stone, and it is a permanent reminder of those days.

ANDREW, AGED 14, OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA



CUSTOMS & CURIOSITIES



COMPILED BY DAWN THOMPSON (W.A.)

Readers are invited to contribute articles and photos to this column.

THINGS MY MOTHER TOLD ME:—

When daughters remained in the home until they married, and helped with household chores, there was ample opportunity to pass on home-making and child-rearing and wifely skills that may be lost in the hustle of a different era. Here are some small wise words inherited from older generations:—

- always cook stewing meals slowly a long time, "stew boiled is stew spoiled!"
- for a well-made bed, tuck in the bottom sheet well at the top of the bed, and the top sheet well at the bottom.
- scrape saucepans, casseroles, basins etc., rinse well and invert for easy washing up.
- soak bloodstained clothing overnight in soapy water and rub well before washing.
- nothing cleans windows and mirrors as well as wet newspaper.
- to children's requests, always say "yes" if you possibly can, but if you say "no," mean it.
- when sandwich making, always butter the crusts well, as that is the driest part of the bread.
- hard dried crusts are better for babies' gums and safer than biscuits.
- children under five should not eat peanuts as they sometimes inhale them into the lungs.
- never bring up problems or difficulties before a hungry man. Feed him first.
- advice to a young girl about boyfriends — "treat 'em cool, little lass; treat 'em cool!"
- when sheets begin to wear thin, rip down the centre from top to bottom, turn the strong outer edges to the centre and join with a flat seam and hem the edges.

BRINGING HOME THE BACON (etc.):—

The diet of families in the West Australian wheat belt was rather limited in the days before refrigeration. One colourful and inventive character, the journalist and poet "Dryblower" Murphy, who once had a farm in the Burakin area, delighted his family and friends by transporting delicacies such as sausages and fish over the 160 miles home from the city. His method was to festoon his trusty Chev all along the sides of the hood with the goodies. Rushing through the night air at the rate of 25 miles per hour kept the perishables cool and fresh, to be much appreciated at journey's end, however odd it may have appeared along the way.

TO PRESERVE LEMON PEEL:—

Halve some lemons, soak in slightly salted water for three days, drain and boil in clean water until soft. Make syrup by boiling two cups sugar, one cup water for five minutes. Put drained peel in basin, pour syrup over, leave for five days, strain off syrup and boil it up. Next put peel on dish, sprinkle with fine sugar, allow to dry in cool oven or sunshine.

When boiling split pea soup, add a slice of bread, this prevents peas from sticking to saucepan.

CURE FOR CROUP:—

Mix together one dessertspoon methylated spirits, two dessertspoons vine vinegar, three dessertspoons water. Dip small pieces of woollen material in this liquid and wrap around throat, then cover with dry material. This gives quick relief.

TO REMOVE INK STAINS FROM CARPET:—

Sop up with blotting paper, then apply milk with rag changing milk when dirty. When ink is removed, wash with ammonia and water, the stain will vanish.

TO PRESERVE PASSION PULP:—

To medium size jar of passion fruit pulp, add one aspro and half cup sugar. Stir and shake well. This will keep for months in refrigerator (not cold storage).

TO CLEAN SILVER:—

Put silver teapots, jugs, etc. in plastic bags and tie up the mouth. These will never tarnish.

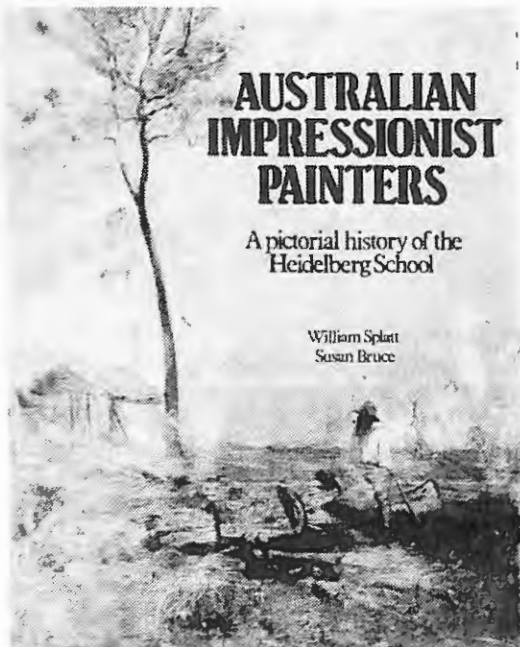
An Old Irish Blessing

May the road rise to meet you
May the wind always be at your back
May the sunshine warm upon your face
May the rains fall soft upon your fields
and until we meet again
May God hold you in the palm of His hand.

If you are feeling blue, find something to do for somebody else who is sadder than you.



Readers' book reviews are welcomed for this page.
Please send black and white photograph of book.



Henry Lawson's immortal stories have been read and re-read by generations of Australians. This collection brings together 87 of his best known stories, originally published as three volumes: *While the Billy Boils*, *On the Track* and *Over the Sliprails*.

From the slums of Sydney to the shearing sheds of Northern New South Wales (where the shearers followed his stories in the *Bulletin*), Henry Lawson deftly draws his wide range of characters — drovers, buckjumpers, seamen, diggers, drunks, lovers . . .

The first story, 'An Old Mate Of Your Father's', sets the style: a blend of sadness and humour, irony and striking realism. Lawson wrote about what he saw and heard. His honesty tempered with sympathy is skilfully displayed in stories such as 'The Drover's Wife' and 'The Union Buries its Dead'.

Published by Lloyd O'Neil Pty. Ltd., South Yarra, Victoria.
\$5.95.

This book is the story — in paintings and photographs — of the most famous group of artists in Australia's history: the so-called 'Heidelberg School' of Australian Impressionist painters.

Its leaders, Tom Roberts, Frederick McCubbin, Arthur Streeton and Charles Conder, struck the first concerted note of nationalism in Australian painting and produced some of its most famous and enduring works.

Many of their paintings are familiar to all Australians, but the details of their lives are generally less well-known to those who have long enjoyed their art.

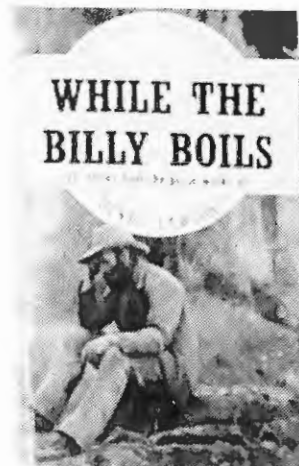
This book enables us to catch some glimpses of the artists as people: Roberts, slightly stiff in manner and always the leader; Streeton, the dreamer reading Keats and Wordsworth in the Australian bush; Conder the lazy yet charming and talented youth; McCubbin, the genial family man who inspired affection.

Rare archive photographs and the painters' own works record scenes that were to become part of Australia's artistic heritage. Here are the painters camped in the bush and in the house at Heidelberg; here is the youth Streeton painting Sydney harbour; here is Roberts working on *The Opening of Parliament*; here is the fatherly McCubbin with his students.

The reproductions are accompanied by a short account of the origins, flowering and eventual decline of the Heidelberg School. There are notes on the less-known painters associated with the Heidelberg School — among them David Davies, Walter Withers, Girolamo Nerli, Jane Sutherland, Tom Humphrey and Clara Southern — and there are colour reproductions of their work.

With more than 150 illustrations in colour and duotone.

Published by John Currey, O'Neil Publishers Pty. Ltd., Frederick Street, Windsor, Victoria. \$24.95



Verses Versatile

by Frances Allen



Relax

Rest a little,
Be quiet a little,
Have a little peace,
Loosen up that rigid frame,
Loosen up those hands.
Close those eyes,
Relax that head,
Think a pleasant thought.
Float upon a fluffy cloud.
Be birds on drifting wings;
Rest upon the gentle wave;
Soar in outer space,
Rest a little,
Be quiet a little,
find a little peace.

MIRACLE

I made a great discovery
As I sat in the warming sun,
Thinking how to take a word
And make it rhyme with fun:
Brains are used to work like this,
And almost in a trice,
Like a rabbit from a hat,
Produced words, three times twice.
I made a great discovery
Just sitting in the sun;
My hand obeys my magic brain,
And writes words, one by one:
A miracle has been performed,
By brain and hand, you see,
So I made a great discovery,
This miracle . . . is me.

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The REGISTER of the VICTORIA CROSS



The Victoria Cross is by far the world's most coveted medal for bravery. Although instituted more than a century ago, and spanning the four most terrible wars in Britain's history, it has been awarded to only 1,348 men, three of whom have won it twice, plus one more for the American Unknown Warrior, who lies buried in Arlington National Cemetery, Washington, as a symbol for all those who died fighting in the Allied cause. The British Unknown Warrior – who lies buried in Westminster Abbey – received the Congressional Medal of Honour from the United States Government – he was not awarded a Victoria Cross.

The deeds for which the VC has been won are as varied as the backgrounds from which the winners have come. For it is the most democratic of all medals, open to the private soldier no less than his commanding officer – every rank and grade of all branches of Her Majesty's forces? Still cast in bronze from the cannons captured at Sebastopol in the Crimean War, the Victoria Cross retains a mystique that no other decoration has ever achieved. It takes precedence over all others, and the merest glimpse of that distinctive crimson ribbon on the breast of a veteran is sufficient to establish him as a military monarch in the minds of his fellow men, and nothing short of a god in the eyes of schoolboys throughout the world.

The VC has never been won by a woman, although the rules do allow for that possibility, yet it has been awarded to four civilians – contrary to popular belief. It has also been won by several foreigners, including two Germans as well as one Russian and five Americans. The youngest ever winner was aged just over 15, the oldest 61. The VC also runs in families – three sets of father and son have gained it, and four pairs of brothers.

Over the years many books have been written about the exploits of those whose bravery in action have earned the VC, but until this year never have all 1,348 winners been listed – together with details

of birth, deed, memorials, etc – in one volume. This formidable task has now been accomplished by the staff of *This England* magazine, with the co-operation of the Imperial War Museum, culminating in the publication this summer of *The Register of the Victoria Cross*.

It will appear on June 21st to coincide with the Silver Jubilee of the Victoria Cross and George Cross Association, which was itself formed in the centenary year of the founding of the honour. Over 80 VCs are still alive today.

The Victoria Cross was founded by Royal Warrant on January 29th, 1856, and was originally intended to be awarded solely to members of the Royal Navy and British Army who, serving in the presence of the enemy, should have performed some single act of valour or devotion to their country.

As Queen Victoria herself pointed out, it was not an Order, such as the Garter of the Bath. If offered no knighthood or Companionship, bore no religious significance and contained no ranks within itself. It was intended solely as a decoration "to be highly prized and eagerly sought after by the officers and men of Our naval and military services."

In due course, further Royal Warrants enlarged the scope of the award to admit other categories

but the over-riding requirement for winning it remained conspicuous bravery. It could not be earned in any other way, whether by influence or privilege. It was to be conferred by the Sovereign alone, upon advice, and was to be utterly beyond reproach.

An important clause laid down that "neither rank, nor long service, nor wounds, nor any other circumstance or condition whatsoever, save the merit of conspicuous bravery" should establish a sufficient claim to the honour, thereby placing "all persons on a perfectly equal footing in relation to eligibility for the decoration." The VC therefore became the most democratic honour in the annals of military and naval history. This aspect was confirmed by the elective procedure laid down in those cases where a number of "equally brave and distinguished persons" has been thought worthy of the honour. The names submitted to the Sovereign were to be chosen by their fellow men taking part in the action concerned.

Pensions were granted to all holders of the Victoria Cross below commissioned rank, and an expulsion clause allowed for a recipient's name to be erased from the official Register, in certain wholly discreditable circumstances, and his pension cancelled.

Although there are eight recorded cases of forfeiture, in accordance with the terms of the original Warrant, all eight men are still included in the main total and no mention of the forfeiture is made except as a note at the bottom of the War Office List, which covers the period 1856 to August 1914.

King George V felt very strongly that the decoration should *never* be forfeited. In a letter written by his Private Secretary, Lord Stamfordham, on 26th July, 1920, his views are forcibly expressed:

The King feels so strongly that, no matter the crime committed by anyone on whom the VC has been conferred, the decoration should not be forfeited. Even were a VC to be sentenced to be hanged for murder, he should be allowed to wear his VC on the scaffold."

Since the original Warrant, others have been issued modifying or extending its provisions — in 1858 Queen Victoria decreed that the Cross could be won by those who "may perform acts of conspicuous courage and bravery ... in circumstances of extreme danger, such as the occurrence of a fire on board ship, or of the foundering of a vessel at sea, or under any other circumstances in which ... life or public property may be saved."

This Warrant was only called into use twice and then, in 1881, a new VC Warrant was signed which stated "Our Will and Pleasure is that the qualification (for the award of the Victoria Cross) shall be "conspicuous bravery or devotion to the country *in the presence of the enemy*." But for this stipu-



△ Charles David Lucas was the first winner of the V.C. in 1854.

lation there would have been no need for the institution of the George Cross.

In 1902 King Edward VII approved the important principle of awarding it posthumously. In 1911 King George V admitted native officers and men of the Indian Army to eligibility and, in 1920, it was further extended to include the RAF, and "matrons, sisters, nurses...serving regularly or temporarily under the orders, direction or supervision" of the military authorities...emphasising, however, that the VC "shall only be awarded for most conspicuous bravery or some daring pre-eminent act of valour or self-sacrifice or extreme devotion to duty in the presence of the enemy."

Queen Victoria chose the design for the new decoration herself. It is in the form of a Maltese Cross ensigned with the Royal Crest and a scroll inscribed simply: *For Valour*. It is connected by a V-shaped link to a bar engraved on the face with laurel leaves, and having a space on the reverse for the recipient's name. The date of the deed for which the honour is bestowed is engraved on the back of the Cross itself. It is worn on the left breast suspended from a 1½ inch wide crimson ribbon... originally the VC ribbon was blue for the Navy, dark red for the Army, but since 1920 it has been the same crimson shade for all services.

The actual Cross itself is made of bronze and still cast from metal melted down from the cannons captured at Sebastopol in the Crimean War.

Although the Royal Warrant instituting the Victoria Cross was not issued until January 1856, the earliest deed of valour to win the award was performed 18 months earlier, on June 21st, 1854, by a 20-year-old Irishman, Charles David Lucas, mate of H.M.S. *Hecla* which was attacking the fortress of Bomarsund in the Baltic. At a range of only 500 yards a live shell with fuse still hissing landed on the deck of the *Hecla* from a Russian Battery. Lucas picked it up with his bare hands and threw it over-board...it exploded as it entered the sea, but the ship and crew were saved certain destruction. Lucas was promoted to lieutenant on the spot by his commanding officer and eventually rose to the rank of Rear-Admiral.



King George V presenting the Victoria Cross to the Rev. T.B. Hardy at a field investiture in France, 1918.

IMPERIAL WAR MUSEUM

Some 62 VCs who had been 'gazetted' – i.e. their names and deeds were cited in the *London Gazette* – were present at Hyde Park, London, on the morning of June 26th, 1857, when Queen Victoria held her first Investiture ceremony for the newly-instituted decoration that bore her name. In keeping with the democratic spirit of the award all recipients stood shoulder to shoulder, regardless of rank. Since then, a total of 1,348 men or, in the case of posthumous awards, their widows or representatives, have been decorated with the VC. The last deed for which it was awarded took place on 24th May, 1969, in Vietnam. The winner was Warrant Officer Keith Payne of Australia.

In the 125 years since its foundation there have been many claims, particularly among family descendants, that a kinsman had won the Victoria Cross. Up till now those claims have been difficult to prove or deny without access to War Department and other Service lists, resulting in unresolved and lingering disputes. That was the minor reason for *This England* embarking on the production of such a comprehensive Register of the Victoria Cross.

The major reason, however, was to create a definitive and lasting work of reference as a tribute to the bravery of the men themselves...

SIMON APPELYARD

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New Year's Honour List

The following letter appeared in The West Australian of January 6th, 1982. No doubt it expresses the sentiments of many readers, and before our apathy lets this issue go unchallenged, may we suggest that you write to your political representative.

What a sad piece of reading the New Year's honours list must have been for genuine monarchists. The list highlighted the cynical exploitation of the monarchy by the Liberal Party in Australia.

We've become accustomed to seeing the honours list used as a political "pay-off" system, a silly bit of ego-stroking for members of the Government and its camp followers.

Usually, decorum has kept the number judiciously small, and plausible justifications have been mounted. After all, they are nominally the Queen's awards.

But, this time, the gaggle of government groupies who have received awards on the flimsiest of pretexts defies belief.

Actions such as this can only undermine and bring disrespect to the monarchical system that accedes to this transparent abuse of power.

TED ANTHONY

Thoughts on Life

An old sage says: "If there is righteousness in the heart there will be beauty in the character. If there be beauty in the character, there will be harmony in the home. If there be harmony in the home, there will be order in the nation. When there is order in the nation, there will be peace in the world."

(A better world begins with you!)

Pastor Frederick Kummerow,
Angaston, South Australia.

NEW GOVERNOR-GENERAL

The Prime Minister, Mr. Fraser, has announced that Sir Ninian Stephen will succeed Sir Zelman Cowen as Governor-General. Sir Ninian, who has been a Justice of the High Court since 1972, will take over from Sir Zelman in late July. Sir Zelman has resigned to become provost of Oriel College, one of Oxford University's oldest colleges. It is our hope that Sir Ninian will help develop a greater understanding of his position, and that of the Monarchy, amongst the Australian public.

HERITAGE

The quarterly of the Australian Heritage Society



"HERITAGE" is the quarterly journal of The Heritage Society and this is now the mouthpiece through which the Society's activities are initiated. Subscriptions to "Heritage" are unprecedented in the history of its parent body, The Australian League of Rights. Famous Australians, including Sir Robert Menzies have contributed much to this journal making it one of the most controversial publications on the subject of preserving our heritage.

Subscription \$6 per year or a gift subscription plus your own subscription for a total of \$10.

Membership to the Society is open to all Australians at \$10 per annum. This entitles members to all Society publications, and the quarterly journal.

"The heritage of our British forbears enabled us to start with enormous advantages"

IGNORING THE VALUABLE LESSONS OF OUR PAST

It is fashionable nowadays to sneer at the past. History no longer receives the emphasis it once did, and the cries for change and progress are allowed to obliterate any of the lessons of former ages. This type of madness was the feature of all great collapses of former civilisations. The inhabitants believed that they were nobler and more enlightened than their predecessors, and had no need to consult their own history. So an understanding of heritage is important.

The evolution of any civilisation is a slow and painful one.

It is quite possible for a generation which disparages its own heritage to lose it, which means that the whole process of learning and re-learning has to be repeated.

The valuable lessons of the past — the 'precedents', as our system of Common Law would call them — we call our heritage. We have a productive heritage, which started with the discovery of the wheel, and is still being embellished with the technological discoveries of today. We have an educational heritage, which tragically is disintegrating under the assaults of progressive permissiveness that scoffs at standards.

And we have a legislative and constitutional heritage, which, though it has given us a freedom and stability never before equalled, is also under attack.

The evolution of our governmental system in Australia is much older than the 200 years since the first fleeters arrived. The heritage of our British forebears enabled us to start with enormous advantages.

Why then, is it considered reactionary to acknowledge this advantage, and the history which goes with it?

SOURCE UNKNOWN

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.

Address written contributions to:

THE EDITOR, "HERITAGE",
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The "Heritage" issues reviewed below are available at \$2.00 each posted. They can be ordered on the "Heritage" subscription form in this issue.

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The historic first issue of "Heritage".

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- How Sir John Kerr stepped into history. The events of November 11, 1975, demonstrate the strengths of our Monarchical system of government.
- The launching of the Australian Heritage Society.
- Sir Raphael Cilento — Patron. "The challenge for the hearts and minds of our children is the justification for our organisation and the issue is clean cut: victory by intense endeavour or defeat by default."



HERITAGE No. 3 — December 1976-February 1977

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- The Great Constitutional Debate is under way. A realistic approach to the dismissal of the Whitlam Government by Sir John Kerr.
- The Australian Military Tradition by Peter Firkins — military historian and author.
- The Myth of Majority Rule. "This is the heresy; that majorities can do no wrong, that there is no higher truth than the transient opinions of contemporary majorities..."



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- Australian Royal Visits 1867-1977
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- Elizabeth II — Biography
- The Spiritual Implications of the Crown



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1977 Royal Tour Report.

Also includes:

- Australian War Memorial. The Australian Heritage Society looks at one of our most famous national monuments.
 - Silver Jubilee Address by Arthur A. Chresby. "The Monarchy exists as the sole legal protector against the mischief of power-maddened politicians."
- An excellent outline of the role of the Monarchy and government within our national framework.

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