



Hotham History Project Inc.

Estab 1995

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Hotham History News

Summer 2018

Welcome to another year with Hotham History Project (HHP). We have been providing a forum for people interested in exploring the history of North and West Melbourne and publishing the findings since 1995. We hold regular meetings, talks and walks throughout the year. We also conduct research and publish books on local history that can be purchased through our web site at: www.hothamhistory.org.au

Membership is open to people with an interest in the local history of North and West Melbourne for \$15.00 per annum or \$20 for families. The easiest way to join is to complete the membership form on our website. If you have a local history project that you would like to pursue or suggestions for future activities we would love to hear from you. This can be done through our web site or contacting the secretary.

Committee members for 2017/18

Chair: Lorna Hannan

Deputy Chair: Rae Nicholls

Secretary: Mary Kehoe

Treasurer: David Evans

Ordinary members:

Jenny Cook, Felicity Jack, Heather McKay, Guy Murphy, Kay Oke, John Poynter, Lorraine Siska and Doug Spoor.

Australia Day Honours

Hotham History congratulates **Professor Janet McCalman**, a founding member of the Hotham History Project, on her award of Companion (AC) in the Order of Australia. Janet's honour is for eminent service to

education, particularly in the field of social history, as a leading academic, researcher and author, and through the promotion of history to the wider community.



Congratulations also to the family of former member, the late **Dr Hugh Anderson**, who was posthumously awarded Member of the Order of Australia (AM) for his significant service to Australian folklore as an historian and author, and his contribution to the Victorian community through historical societies.

2018 Program of Events

Our program of events for 2018 is still being developed and a number of dates are yet to be confirmed. Outlined below are activities confirmed to date.

Sunday 18 March 2018, at 11.00am. A tour of Jack's Magazine, Maribyrnong.



Jack's Magazine is a remarkable historic place on the banks of the Maribyrnong River

The bluestone buildings and surrounds were constructed between 1875 and 1921 and used for the storage and transport of explosives. This tour will provide an opportunity to see an important piece of Victoria's military and industrial past. Booking details will be provided in a forthcoming flyer.

Saturday 7 April 2018 at 1.30 pm. Along the Maribyrnong River with Peter Somerville on the 'Blackbird'.

A number of members missed out on this trip last year because of the limited number of places available on the 'Blackbird'. We are therefore planning to run this trip again on 7 April 2018. The trip will cover the geography and early history of the River and its importance to the development of Melbourne.



The cost for the trip is \$20 per head. Booking details will be provided closer to the date.

Saturday 5 May 2018, 2.00 pm at North Melbourne Library. Talk with Guest Speaker, Lynn Haines. The Woodbridge Family: Harness makers and saddlers of North Melbourne.

Lynn is a family historian who has researched her Woodbridge family history from Abingdon in Berkshire to North Melbourne where Bartlett Woodbridge set up as a harness maker and saddlery in Leveson Street, North Melbourne in the 1850's. Lynn will tell the story of the fortunes and misfortunes of the family during the 19th and early 20th centuries.

**Saturday 12 May 2018
National Trust Heritage Festival Walk – a joint activity with the North Melbourne Library. Commencing at 1.00pm.**

The walk is a repeat of the 'Coffee Walk' along historic Errol Street, North Melbourne. Further details will be circulated closer to the date.

Saturday 25 August at 2.00pm. – Annual General Meeting.

Our guest speaker will be Professor Janet McCalman who will speak on her recent research on Tasmanian convicts and World War I diggers under the working title, '**It all comes down to mothers and grandmothers: early life influences on the life outcomes of Tasmanian Convicts and the First AIF**'.

Vale

The Hotham History Project is saddened by the deaths of three of our members: George Dixon, Graeme Harper and Denys Harraway.

George Dixon was an actor/producer and respected teacher who together with his wife, Lola Russell, lived in the oldest shop in the CBD on the corner of King and La Trobe Streets.

Dr Graeme Harper was a lecturer in Education at the Hawthorn campus of the University of Melbourne, a talented photographer and keen amateur painter. He and his wife Heather were long term residents of the area and always interested in its history.

Denys Harraway had a special interest in the history of our region and was a keen supporter of our activities and presentations. An obituary for Denys Harraway will be in the next edition of the *North & West Melbourne News*.

Our sincere condolences to the families and friends of George, Graeme and Denys.

We look forward to seeing you at some of the events above.

If you do not wish to receive this newsletter or our other notices please advise us at: info@hothamhistory.org.au