

Archives creates Prime Ministers Website

Thanks to our exciting new website, Australians will have the chance to meet each of Australia's 25 Prime Ministers. The website, to be launched later this year, is a virtual encyclopaedia of information on Australia's Prime Ministers.

Features include 'Meet a PM', with biographies of each Prime Minister and his wife, and research maps that show which collections hold original records on Australian Prime Ministers, both in Australia and overseas.

Researchers can follow a timeline of important events during each Prime Minister's term of office, search the 'Who's Who'

section to find out about important people in their life, or click on 'Fast Facts' to check a name or date.

The important, but often overlooked, role that Prime Ministers' wives played in public life is also highlighted.

Our *Australia's Prime Ministers* website brings together photographs, digitised images of original documents and a wealth of historical information drawn from our collection. The research maps lead deeper into the collections of the National Archives as well as the National Library of Australia, ScreenSound Australia, the Australian War Memorial, State Libraries, University Archives, Prime Ministerial Libraries and other smaller organisations.



Prime Minister Joseph Lyons, Dame Enid Lyons and their 11 children at the Lodge, c. 1937.

By permission of the National Library of Australia

A word

from our Minister

Minister for the Arts and Sport, Senator the Hon. Rod Kemp, visited us in Canberra recently and was impressed with what he saw and learned. He shared the following thoughts with us.

'History is our foundation stone, reminding us of the things that have fashioned our past and our present. It can also provide an understanding of who we are, and importantly where we might be headed in the future.

The National Archives of Australia is a window into our past. Among the many papers, documents, files and department records are stories that trace the events and decisions that have shaped our nation.

In a recent visit to the National Archives I discovered the founding documents exhibition, *Charters of Our Nation*. It was fascinating to see the Letters Patent and Royal Assent Queen Victoria signed to create our new nation – our national birth certificates.

Not only has each piece its own story to tell about how we became a nation, but they are both striking works of art on parchment and vellum, with elaborate decoration.

These are important documents in our country's heritage and, thanks to the National Archives, they are now on display together for all Australians to appreciate.

The National Archives is a hidden gem, with its headquarters housed in a wonderful heritage building nestled between the old and new Parliament Houses, fittingly, in the national capital's parliamentary triangle.

They are the official keeper of government records, but they are also so much more. The Archives bring to life what are sometimes thought of as just government files – they are historians and they are storytellers.

Public interest in the National Archives is increasing, due in large part to their popular exhibitions, not only in Canberra, but also through their touring exhibitions and more recently their online projects. These projects have made the collection available to more Australians than ever.



I am pleased our recordkeeping is in such capable hands and wish the Archives every success for the launch of their lighthouse exhibition *Beacons by the Sea* and their innovative website *Australia's Prime Ministers* later this year.'

Rod Kemp

Archives creates Prime Ministers Website



Continued from page 1

Whether you're a school student writing an essay, a journalist checking your facts or an academic researching a book, the *Australia's Prime Ministers* website should be the first port of call for information on our national leaders.

Complementing the website is a series of research guides on Prime Ministers and their wives. The guides, which list and describe relevant material held in a number of archives, will be available both in print and online. *Our First Six*, as the name implies, features our first six Prime Ministers from Federation (Barton, Deakin, Watson, Reid, Fisher and Cook, 1901–15). *Joseph Lyons* focuses on the Prime Minister who led Australia through the Depression and his wife Enid Lyons, Australia's first female Cabinet Minister. Guides on Harold Holt (1966–67) and Stanley Melbourne Bruce (1923–29) are in production, and will be followed by others in the future.

Check out the website
later this year at
primeministers.naa.gov.au



New prime ministerial team James and Sarah Scullin receive a rousing welcome at Canberra railway station, 1929.

NAA: A3560, 6102

Their lives on the line

Tuesday August 21st ...

Healy, Cook, Macnamara, Johnny and myself on foot ...

Distance travelled today 3¾ miles ... I greatly fear that none of the horses will reach Somerset – They are all done now – I am certain that the poor feed and poison are the cause of so many horses having to be abandoned. I never saw a more wretched country anywhere I have been ...

JR BRADFORD'S JOURNAL, CAPE YORK PENINSULA EXPEDITION, 1883

NAA: J1, Q366/1/28



NAA: J2879, Q1H49

JR Bradford, Inspector of Lines and Mail Routes, 1885–86.

The journal of John Bradford, a telegraph line surveyor for the Queensland Post and Telegraphs Department, came to our attention while we were reviewing our collection in Queensland. The journal charts his harrowing journey in 1883 from Cooktown to Somerset on the tip of Cape York, and across the Torres Strait to Thursday Island, an expedition mostly on horseback and on foot that covered 644 kilometres in three months.

Bradford and six others set out from Cooktown in June with 36 horses and supplies. At first the journey appeared to go to plan – the horses were given a regular spell and the going was good. But just two weeks after the expedition left Cooktown, the horses began to die. Bradford later surmised that they had been poisoned by eating the young shoots of ironwood trees that were common to the area.

By July, Bradford had come down with 'fever and ague' but struggled onward through increasingly treacherous country:

... we came on a narrow gully. Wilson, who was just in advance of me, tried to cross this gully, but Samson the horse he was riding got in a hole hidden by rushes and weeds, and full of water, but not much larger than his body, though apparently deep enough. There Samson was with no part of his body visible but his head. Wilson had a narrow escape as he was partly under the horse when he fell. We were detained here for two hours getting the horse out of the hole ... We now passed over rolling sandy ridges, in some places so undermined with ants as to be absolutely dangerous, the horses suddenly going down to the knees in the sand.



Packhorses passing anthills on the route of the Cape York Expedition, 1925.

As the expedition continued to move north, conditions became more inhospitable. The men lived on a diet of damper, cured meat and the occasional sweet potato, and struggled with limited water rations. They battled bushfires, dense scrub and shifting sand as they travelled across some of the most rugged country in Australia.

At every point Bradford considered the practicalities of building the telegraph line and marked the bloodwood trees he thought suitable for telegraph poles. He noted the areas that were well timbered, well watered and suitable for setting up camp along the route.

As time went on, he began feeding the horses flour to keep them alive, and threw away horse shoes and other items to lighten the packs.

By August, the expedition had run into serious trouble. Bradford expressed heartache at the prospect of leaving behind sick and injured horses, and concern at dwindling rations.

Friday August 17th.

I do not know what the end will be, but it looks like finishing on foot, with as much of the necessities of life as we can carry on our backs . . .

Saturday August 18th.

Several of the horses now gave signs of distress . . . either grass must be found or all the horses would have to be abandoned, as another night on the Spinifex would finish them all.

Finally, after three gruelling months the expedition reached the beach and then Somerset. Most of Bradford's expedition returned to Cooktown on the steamer ship *Gympie*, while Bradford and Healy continued on to Thursday Island aboard the *SS Corea*.



NAA: J3080, Bradford map 2

An extract from one of a series of large format maps hand-drawn by JR Bradford, circa 1884.

Bradford's journal is a remarkable story of determination. In search of related records, we also discovered a cache of Australia Post records about the expedition and the construction of the Cape York Extension telegraph line. This rich collection includes survey maps, reports and correspondence as well as photographs of Bradford's route, telegraph stations along the Cape York Extension and the staff who lived and worked at the stations.

If these excerpts of Bradford's diary have whetted your appetite, you can dig even deeper into this fascinating collection by visiting our Brisbane office.





ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT

first... again!

Robert Garran, the first Secretary to the Attorney-General's Department, and at 33 years of age surely the youngest ever, created the first record of the Commonwealth of Australia. In his memoirs, he wrote:

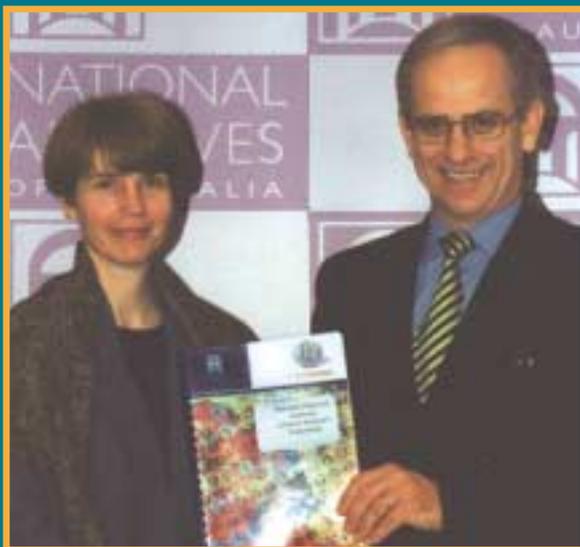
... I was both head and tail of my Department, being my own clerk and messenger. My first duty on 1st January [1901] was to write out in longhand the first number of the Commonwealth Gazette and send myself down to the Government Printer with it. The next big job was to arrange the elections for the first Federal Parliament. (*Prosper the Commonwealth*, 1958)

Now, 101 years later, the Attorney-General's Department has again registered a first in Commonwealth recordkeeping by being the first Department of State to complete a project using our new DIRKS methodology. The project has created a solid base for the department's future recordkeeping and produced a records disposal authority that sets out the arrangements for the retention of records that date from its origin in 1901 to the present.

A century after its creation, the Attorney-General's Department is still a central policy department responsible for one of the Commonwealth's first functions, the administration of law. While its activities extend far beyond its initial role of providing legal advice to government and drafting legislation, it remains a vital part of the legal framework that underpins our democratic system.

The preservation of its records enables the government to be held to account for its actions, now and in the future. For this reason, its records are relevant to all Australians.

Thanks to the department's commitment to good recordkeeping practices, its important records, whether written in longhand, typed or recorded electronically, will continue to be maintained for future generations.



Anne-Marie Schwirtlich, our acting Director-General, and Peter LeRoy, General Manager of Information and Knowledge Services at the Attorney-General's Department, with the Department's records disposal authority.

A new Australian standard for records management

We are pleased to endorse the new *Australian Standard for Records Management* AS ISO 15489-2002 for use in Commonwealth government agencies.

The new standard replaces AS 4390-1996: *Records Management* and is consistent with International Standard ISO 15489, which was launched in October 2001.

There are two parts to the new standard: *Records Management – Part 1: General*, which provides a framework for recordkeeping in the form of principles and policy, and *Records Management – Part 2: Guidelines*, a supplementary technical report that provides additional detail and guidance to help organisations implement part 1.

We are progressively updating our *e-permanence* suite of recordkeeping standards, guidelines, training courses and products to reflect the new standard.

Further information can be found on our website at www.naa.gov.au/recordkeeping/rkpubs/advice/advice58.html

Recordkeeping TRAINING

Training for Commonwealth Recordkeepers

23 October 2002, Canberra

Introduction to DIRKS

(previously 'Working with DIRKS')

24 October 2002, Sydney

21 November 2002, Canberra

The more detailed practical DIRKS workshops are being programmed as needed for Commonwealth agencies undertaking DIRKS projects and also for recordkeeping consultants. For more information, please look under 'Recordkeeping – Training' on our website at www.naa.gov.au or ring (02) 6212 3764.



The audit man (and woman) cometh



e^opermanence
bytes

When the auditors come knocking, do you see it as a threat or an opportunity? Would your records stand up to independent professional scrutiny?

Four Commonwealth agencies asked themselves these questions last year when they participated in the first of a series of recordkeeping audits conducted by the Australian National Audit Office (ANAO).

The report of this audit was tabled in Parliament in May 2002. It found that the audited agencies were at different stages in managing the transition from traditional paper-based recordkeeping systems to electronic ones. In the words of the Auditor-General, 'None of the organisations fully satisfied the audit criteria'.

The recordkeeping audit drew heavily upon our *e-permanence* suite of standards and guidelines to develop its audit criteria and methodology. All four agencies reported that participation in the audit helped them identify areas of useful improvement and strategies for managing the transition to good recordkeeping in the electronic era.

Archives staff assisted the ANAO with professional recordkeeping advice and expertise. This cooperative relationship between the Archives and the ANAO will continue throughout 2002–03 while further recordkeeping audits of Commonwealth agencies are conducted.

Did you make a record of what you did today?

Around 270,000 people work for the Commonwealth government. What do they have in common?

They all need to make records of the work they do – to help those that follow them, and to make sure the government can be held to account for its actions.

Records and information staff manage the computerised and paper filing systems which are essential for agencies to keep good records. But good recordkeeping depends on individual officers knowing how to create good records and use the recordkeeping systems.

When should you make a record and what information should you put in it? We are compiling some training materials to help officers answer such questions.

The material includes a short course that records and information managers can present to staff, and a pamphlet and ready reference card for all staff. We expect the material to be available by early 2003. For further information, contact Esther Robinson at recordkeeping@naa.gov.au.



Cartoon by Hinze/Scratch! Media

Make a record of important phone calls.



Documents **DELIVERED** to your desktop

In April 2001 we began trialling a new service known as 'digitisation on demand'. The service aims to make records in our Canberra collection accessible to all Australians, irrespective of where they live. Researchers do not have to visit us, they can simply request digital copies of the records they want and view them on their own computers via the Internet.

Our digitisation process produces low-resolution images quickly and cheaply and makes them available through our website, using our online database RecordSearch.

Many institutions provide digital services, but our service is unique. We allow researchers to select which records they wish to be digitised, and we provide the service at no cost to the person who requests the copies.

To use our digitisation on demand service, log onto our website (www.naa.gov.au), go to our database RecordSearch and find the item you want, then follow the prompts to request a digital copy. Once an item has been digitised the images are loaded onto RecordSearch where they are there for all to see.

Although the images we produce are low resolution, they are quite legible and more than adequate for basic research. Of course, if you

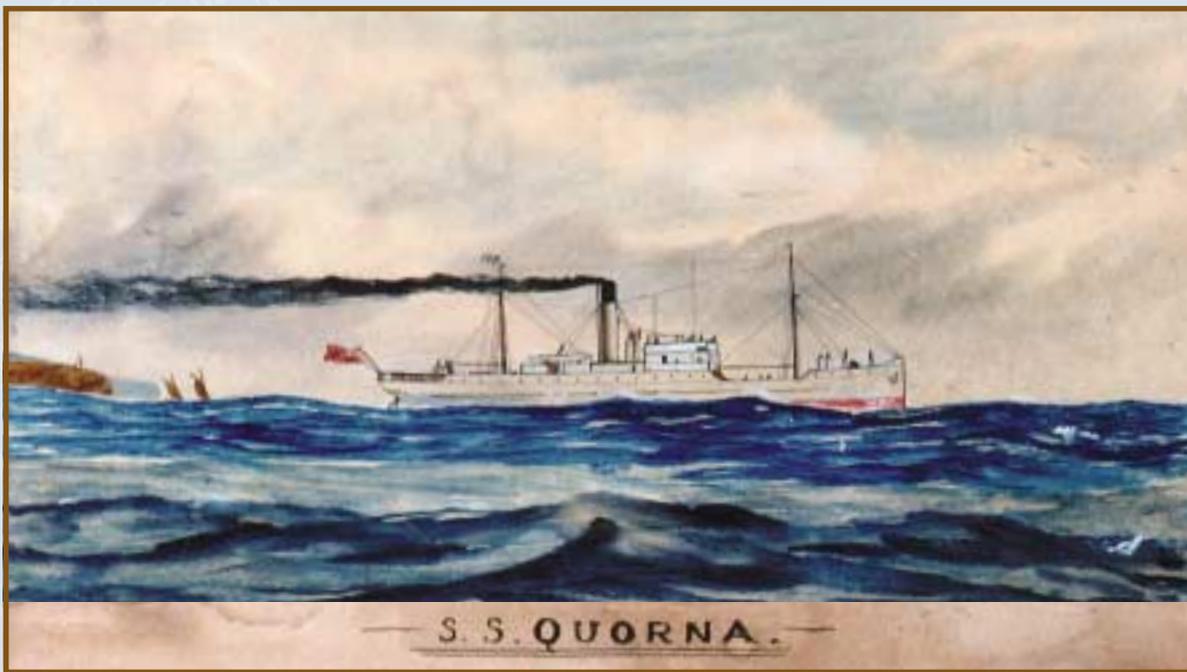
require high-resolution images for a publication or other purpose, we can provide this service too, but we do charge a fee.

In addition to digitisation on demand, we have also embarked on a program of bulk digitisation of parts of our collection, including Cabinet records, Prime Ministerial records and other records of interest to researchers. We also plan to digitise records listed in fact sheets and research guides. Researchers will thus have online access not only to these publications, but also to the records listed in them.

Since its introduction, digitisation on demand has been operating on a trial basis and has been limited to records held in Canberra. In the next few months we will be reviewing the service, considering how future digitisation services should operate and deciding how to digitise records held in our State offices.



Our



Collection of the Australian National Maritime Museum, Darling Harbour, Sydney. Reproduced courtesy of the Museum.

hard working ships' mate

Robert Le Maistre is a familiar face in our Adelaide reading room. Perhaps it's his name (pronounced 'mate') but more likely it's his love of ships that has steered Robert's work as a dedicated maritime historian.

He has spent the last four years trawling through our records for information on Coast Steamships Ltd, which provided freight and passenger services to many South Australian ports from 1875 to 1966.

Lighthouse keepers' journals, ships' logs, customs files and shipping registers have all been ably explored by him, revealing many dramatic and poignant seafaring stories.

Tales of the hardships of lightkeeping abound, including the story of young Muriel Turner's family who lived on Althorpe Island. In 1910 this lighthouse keeper's daughter picked up a detonator which exploded, shattering three fingers of her left hand. It took six days of unsuccessful signalling to passing steamers before Muriel and her mother were rescued by the steam tug *Euro* and taken to Wallaroo for medical treatment.

Some 30 years later, medical treatment was also required on board the SS *Quorna* on its 1944 voyage between Eyre and Yorke peninsulas. As no horse box was available, a horse was tethered on the main deck just outside the smokeroom. When stewardess Reta Bawden opened the door to go on deck, the horse took umbrage and kicked the door, which struck Reta in the face and flung her back into the smokeroom.

These and other South Australian maritime events mentioned in our records are being meticulously recorded by Robert, creating a comprehensive chronological index which has already proved extremely useful for staff and other researchers.

As a retired Customs officer, Robert's personal knowledge of many maritime records is invaluable. Keen to help others navigate them, he has also produced a single comprehensive index to the Register of British Ships. Registers were maintained by the Customs department in each Australian capital city and selected ports, and provide technical and ownership details of ships. Spanning nearly 150 years, these registers are available on microfilm in each of our reading rooms – and Robert's index will shortly be joining them.

So set your course for our shipping collection, and with our hard working mate's guiding hand, your research will steam ahead.



Robert Le Maistre, a diligent researcher at our Adelaide office.

WANT TO KNOW



NAA: A9568, 1/11/2

Montague Island lighthouse
fixed and flashing light.

Did you know ...

- Australia has more than 400 lighthouses and many were built near the locations of shipwrecks.
- The Macquarie Light at South Head in Sydney was Australia's first lighthouse.
- Many of Australia's lighthouses were built in England by Chance Brothers of Swemthwick, near Birmingham. They were made of prefabricated cast iron and shipped in numbered crates to Australia.
- Lightkeepers did not live in lighthouses, but in cottages beside the lighthouses.

See the exhibition

Our collection is full of original drawings of lighthouses and fascinating stories about the lives of lighthouse keepers and their families. Many of these drawings, photographs and stories will feature in our forthcoming touring exhibition *Beacons by the Sea – Stories of Australian Lighthouses*.

The exhibition is on display in our Canberra gallery from 19 October 2002 to 26 January 2003, then will tour to regional galleries and museums across Australia for three years.

Discover the drawings

Hundreds of original architectural drawings of lighthouses in our collection have now been digitised and can be viewed on our database RecordSearch, simply by entering the name of the lighthouse and reference number A9568.

The digitised drawings and plans depict the lighthouses as well as the lights, lighthouse keepers' residences, storerooms, watchhouses and equipment. Some plans are so large that they had to be photographed in segments and 'stitched together' in the computer.

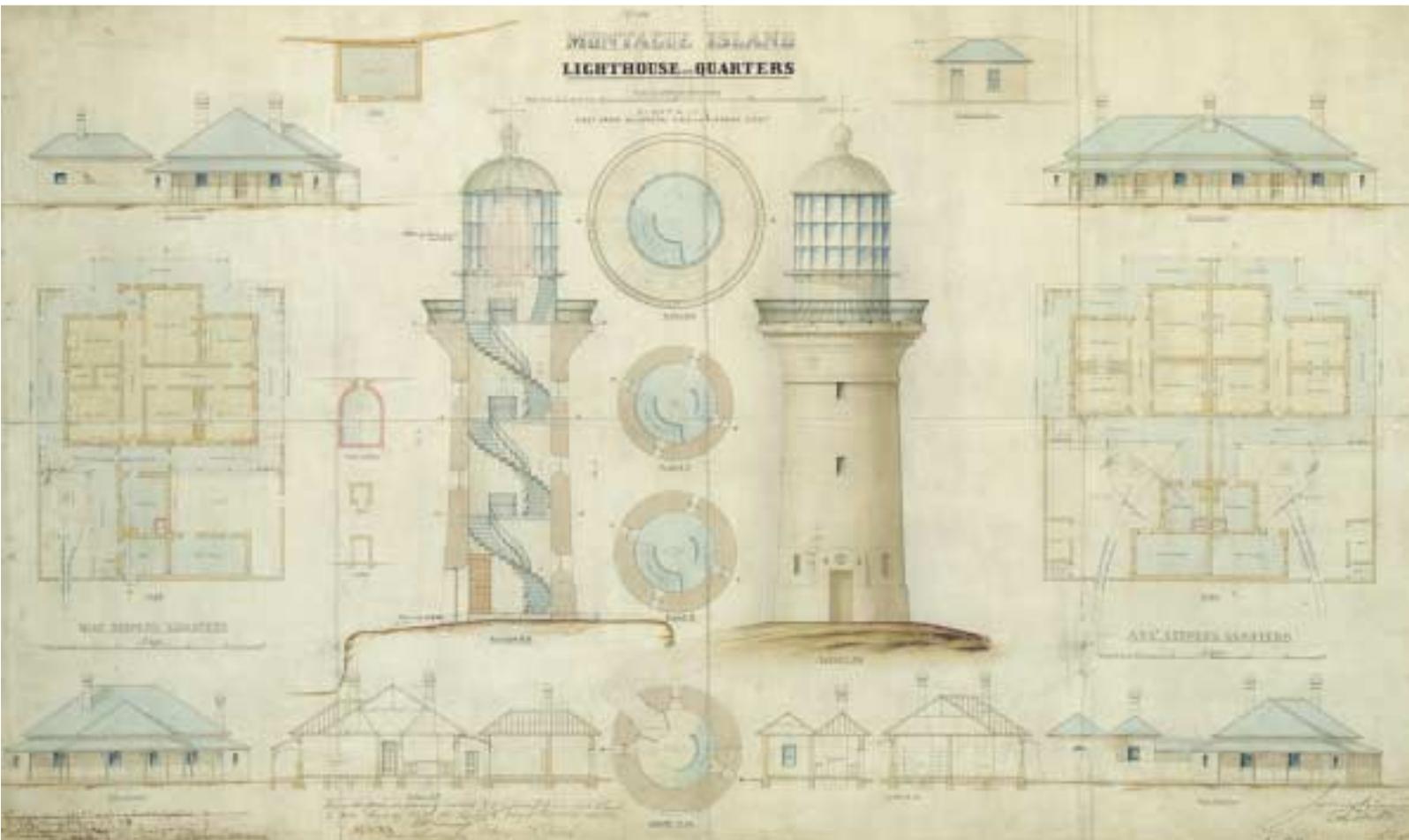
Follow the education trail

Teachers and students can explore the intriguing subject of lighthouses through the education program that will accompany our touring exhibition.

The program caters for years 5–10, with links to the National SOSE (Studies of Society and the Environment) and HSIE (History, Society, Information and the Environment) curricula. It explores key themes in the exhibition such as shipwrecks, lighthouse technology and life in a light station, and includes teachers resources and student activity sheets. Parents and children can explore the exhibition together by following a self-guided discovery trail.

For more information on our education program, please phone (02) 6212 3933 or email education@naa.gov.au.

ABOUT LIGHTHOUSES?



NAA: A9568, 1/11/1

The drawing above shows the lighthouse on Montague Island, New South Wales. Designed by colonial architect James Barnet, the lighthouse boasts a granite tower that stands 19 metres high and rises 60 metres above sea level. The lighthouse has an intriguing construction history. Building blunders, material shortages and poor management led to an eight-year delay from the time the site was chosen until the building was completed in 1881.



Plan of Montague Island showing position of lighthouse quarters.

NAA: A9568, 1/11/5

Living behind

‘Austrians like myself ... who stood up for the independence of their country found themselves publicly blamed ... Jews ... were exposed to blasphemous offences in official speeches of leading Nazis.’

Internee V2083, Paul Herzfeld, in a letter to Justice Norman O'Bryan, 25 February 1941



Tatura Internment Camp, 1943.
Image is portion of Australian War Memorial negative number 052384.

Paul Herzfeld came to Australia in 1939 at the age of 21. An Austrian monarchist and committed anti-Nazi, he tried to enlist in the RAAF to join the fight against Germany. But the Australian authorities considered him a potential danger and interned him for more than four years, first in Tatura in northern Victoria, and then in Loveday, South Australia.

During World War II, Australian authorities interned numerous ‘enemy aliens’, including Germans, Italians and Japanese. Many of the German internees were long-time residents of Australia – and many were members or sympathisers of the Nazi party. But Australian internment camps also held thousands of refugees who had fled Nazi Germany.

Herzfeld and others were kept for a long time in Australian camps that were dominated by German Nazis, who celebrated Germany’s military victories and the *Führer’s* birthday and greeted each other with ‘Heil Hitler!’ – under the watchful eyes of their Australian Army guards. The interned anti-Nazis often appreciated that the Australian authorities were afraid of fifth columnists, or enemy sympathisers. They were less appreciative that their internment lasted for several years while they did everything possible to demonstrate their loyalty to the British Empire. And they could not understand at all why they were interned together with their enemies.

Herzfeld’s story is just one of many that Dr Klaus Neumann, our 2001 Frederick Watson Fellow, unearthed during his time at the National Archives. Dr Neumann researched the

barbed wire



NAA: A435, 1945/4/3487

experiences of a small group of Germans and Austrians who were interned for several years. They included Jews and so-called Non-Aryan Christians (people who were Jews only according to the Nazi racial laws), socialists, Jehovah's Witnesses and others who had come to Australia to escape Nazi Germany.

Dr Neumann is particularly interested in how his subjects coped with being interned: 'That they were in the same camps as the German Nazis was the most difficult aspect of their internment'.

'The National Archives offices in Canberra, Melbourne, Adelaide and Sydney house veritable treasure troves', Neumann says. 'The Army and the security services generated a lot of information about long-term internees, and many of these files have survived.'

Dr Neumann is now trying to trace the lives of Paul Herzfeld and others after they were released from internment. He would be grateful for any information on Walter Stöling (or Stölting), Dr Wolf and Maria (Miriam) Klaphake, Paul Herzfeld, Hans and Alice Meyer, Hermann Behrens, Gerhard Warschauer, George Huelscher, Fritz and Hilda Tramer, Reinhard Schuricht, Klaus Peter Wolff, Gerhard Steuerwald and Peter Ralph Klemperer. He can be contacted by email at kneumann@netspace.net.au.

The texts of Dr Neumann's public lectures on the results of his Archives-sponsored research are posted on our website at www.naa.gov.au/About_Us/past_watson_fellows.html.

(above left) Passport of Friedrich (Fritz) Tramer, who fled Vienna because he was being persecuted as a Jew. He arrived in Sydney on 11 March 1939, and was interned in Orange, Tatura and Loveday internment camps from 6 June 1940 until 23 March 1944.

Speakers show plenty

Sport, music and poetry are just some of the personal passions that speakers in our 'Where's the Passion?' series have discussed this year.



Liz Ellis

So far, audiences to our free talks in Canberra have heard from netballer Liz Ellis, composer Peter Sculthorpe, media personality Julie McCrossin, environmentalist Ian Kiernan, performer Karm Gillespie and gardening guru Mark Carmody.

'Passion alone will not get you to the top of your chosen sport – it's what drives the determination, the guts and hard work that are also required.' This was how Liz Ellis explained her passion, dedication and drive for netball to a spellbound audience earlier this year.

Australian composer and Living National Treasure, Peter Sculthorpe has a passion not only for music but also landscape. *Irkanda I* was the melody formed from his sketch of the contour of the Canberra skyline in 1955, and was his first piece to include musical representations of birdsong.



Peter Sculthorpe



Julie McCrossin

Combining humour and conviction, Julie McCrossin talked about women's rights 100 years since the passing of the Act that gave most Australian women the vote. Despite the greater opportunities now open to women, Julie commented that for women to move ahead cultural changes were still needed both in public life and at home.

Opening time at the pub!



Our new Adelaide office was formally opened in April by the Minister for Foreign Affairs, the Hon. Alexander Downer. Located in the former Old Colonist Hotel, which was built in the 1880s, our new office has been extensively refurbished to provide state of the art research facilities. Speaking at the opening were (from left to right) Graham Hawker, our State Director in

Adelaide, Minister Downer, Anne-Marie Schwirtlich, our acting Director-General and Pat Sumerling, a local historian. The Minister's opening of our new premises continued a family tradition, as his father Sir Alexander Downer opened our former South Australian office in Collinswood in 1963. The doors of our new premises at 78 Angas St in the heart of Adelaide are open for business.

of passion



MS Megabyte



Ian Kiernan

Solo yachtsman **Ian Kiernan, AO** has a passion for cleaning up! His passion was ignited while sailing solo around the world, when he was shocked to find the oceans polluted with rubbish. Starting with Sydney Harbour 12 years ago, Ian's 'Clean Up' campaign has grown into an annual worldwide event. He asserted that good business sense, humour, communication and enthusiasm were keys to the campaign's success.



Karm Gillespie

Karm Gillespie performed his passion for Banjo Paterson by assuming the identity of 24 characters from Paterson's work, including his war correspondence and poetry.

ABC radio personality **Mark Carmody** celebrated the first day of Spring with an engaging journey into the world of gardening. Mark shared tales from his time as head gardener at the Prime Minister's Lodge during the Fraser and Hawke years and at Tindal Air Force Base in the Northern Territory. Everyone was inspired to create their own Garden of Eden at home.



Mark Carmody

Book now to hear our next speakers including **Annette Shun Wah** on the media and **MS Megabyte** on the information age.

Check out the back page or our website for program details.



Annette Shun Wah



Members of the Horn Scientific Exploring Expedition, 1894.
Professor Baldwin Spencer is standing fourth from the left.



NAA: A3, NT1913/7138

Man on a mission

In 1910 the vast expanse of the Northern Territory and its people came under the control of the Commonwealth government. Knowing little about this part of Australia, the government sent a scientific expedition to report on its potential for development. One member of the group was W Baldwin Spencer, an anthropologist who was known for his studies of Indigenous Australians.

Over the next two decades, Spencer received further government commissions and requests for advice on Australia's Indigenous people. In 1911 he was appointed Special Commissioner and Chief Protector of Aboriginals in the Northern Territory, with the role of 'safeguarding the welfare' of Indigenous Australians who lived and worked in the territory.

Spencer's reports are amongst the records in our collection relating to the early administration of the Northern Territory. While his reports often identified issues of concern, they also reflected the paternalism and prejudice of the time towards Indigenous people.

Among the issues Spencer was asked to investigate were living conditions on mission stations and reserves, and the so-called 'problem of the half caste'. In 1912 he visited the Hermannsburg Mission station run by the Lutheran Church, on the Finke River south of the western MacDonnell Ranges.



NAA: A1, 1930/1542

Aboriginal humpies,
Hermannsburg Mission
Station (photo by Spencer).

Spencer noted that there were ‘comfortable houses for the missionaries, a church and a school room ... and two small rooms, one for the incarceration of the girls and the other for that of the boys at night.’

His report criticised aspects of the mission’s management and argued against the ‘forcible detention of the natives by locking them up at night’. Spencer advised that the station could be better managed and made profitable if the government were to take over its administration.

He also recommended that ‘a station for half-castes be founded on the mission lands to serve the whole of the southern division of the territory’ and that it be placed ‘at some distance from the Aboriginal station’. His advice reflected the view of many officials that children of part-descent could become ‘civilised’ if removed from Aboriginal camps and given some training.

Spencer returned to the Hermannsburg Mission in 1923 but found there had been little improvement in conditions since his earlier visit. Again, he recommended the mission be put into government administration, and also suggested that the failure of teaching methods to develop inhabitants’ practical skills was part of a deliberate ploy to prevent them straying from the mission.



NAA: A3, NT1922/2805



NAA: A3, NT1922/2805

Women and children coming out of church, Hermannsburg Mission.

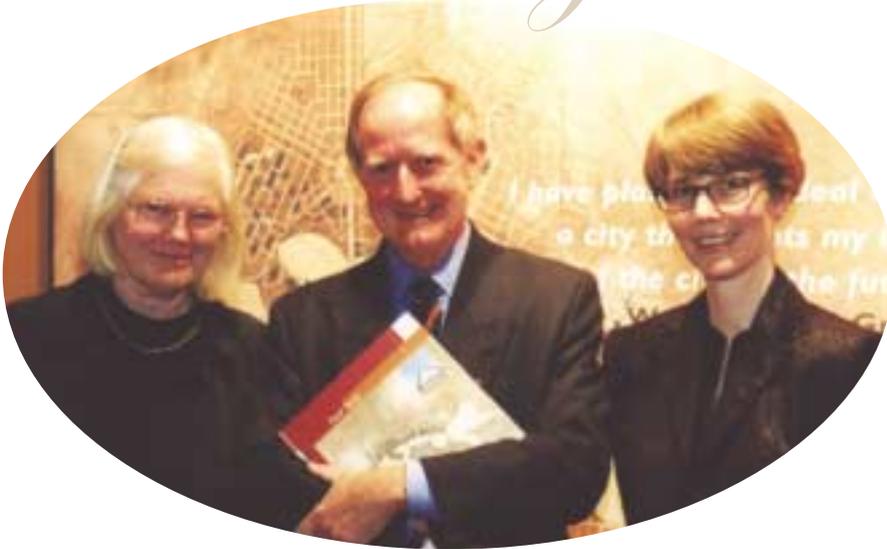
Spencer’s reports and photographs from his expeditions are amongst the many and varied records held in our vast collection. They provide an illuminating but disturbing insight into the treatment of Indigenous people in the Northern Territory in the early part of this century.

Later this year we will be co-publishing, with Australian Scholarly Publishing, a book by Michael Davis on European Australians’ interpretation of Indigenous Australians’ heritage and culture. The work of Baldwin Spencer is mentioned by Davis.

Extract of map from a
medical report showing
many of the locations
Spencer visited.

GRIFFINS FETED

90 years on



Our latest book, *Canberra following Griffin: A Design History of Australia's National Capital* by the late Paul Reid, was launched in two cities – Canberra, the city that Walter Burley Griffin and Marion Mahony Griffin planned, and Sydney, where the Griffins' vision of an ideal community was realised in Castlecrag.

Shown here at the Canberra launch are (from left to right) Wendy Reid, wife of the late author, architect Phillip Cox who launched the book, and Anne-Marie Schwirtlich, our acting Director-General.

The launch of this richly illustrated and informative book coincided with an exhibition of the original Griffin plans that won the international competition for the design of Canberra in 1912. The exhibition, *A Vision Splendid: How the Griffins Imagined Australia's National Capital*, continues until 29 September in our Canberra gallery.

Canberra following Griffin (\$90), the exhibition booklet of *A Vision Splendid* (\$7.95), and a poster of Marion's Mt Ainslie view (\$5) can be purchased at the exhibition, by phoning (02) 6212 3609 or by emailing naasales@naa.gov.au.

SON SEES PRIDE OF LYONS!

We were pleased to welcome Brendan Lyons to the Archives earlier this year. Son of former Prime Minister Joseph Lyons and Dame Enid Lyons, the first woman Cabinet Minister, Brendan took the opportunity to read some of his father's personal papers which along with many other Prime Ministers' papers form part of our collection. These papers are being progressively digitised and loaded onto our database RecordSearch to make them more accessible. Australia's Prime Ministers are the subject of our new website and a series of research guides to archival material of Prime Ministers and their wives (see cover story).



Brendan Lyons, son of Joseph and Enid Lyons, visited us in Canberra recently to look at his father's records in our collection.



NAA: A1200, L21236

Two blokes just muckin' about!

Back in the 1950s, it seems that if you swung a club, kicked a ball, volleyed a backhand or cast a rod, you could find all you'd need at the corner sports shop. And if you happened to be after a famous Malvern Star, they were there in all sizes, for all ages. Can't help wondering about the easy access to rifles and ammo though ... not to mention testing your aim in the shop!

Archives

exhibitions

Charters of Our Nation

Federation Gallery, National Archives, Canberra. Permanent exhibition.

Beacons by the Sea: Stories of Australian Lighthouses

National Archives, Canberra
19 October 2002 to 26 January 2003

Wine! An Australian Social History

Albury Regional Museum, NSW
4 October to 24 November 2002

Bundaberg Arts Centre, Qld
7 December 2002 to 19 January 2003

Museum of the Riverina, Wagga Wagga, NSW
31 January to 30 March 2003

A Vision Splendid: How the Griffins Imagined Australia's Capital

National Archives, Canberra
Closes 29 September 2002

Caught in the Rear View Mirror with Roy and HG

Mildura Arts Centre, Vic
16 August to 22 September 2002

Albury Regional Art Gallery, NSW
1 November to 1 December 2002

Yackandandah Historical Society, Vic
5 December 2002 to 27 February 2003

Belonging: A Century Celebrated

Queensland Museum, Brisbane, Qld
12 October to 8 December 2002

Archives

events

CANBERRA

Where's the Passion?

Annette Shun Wah on media, 13 Oct
MS Megabyte on information, 6 Nov
Talks are free, but bookings are essential.
Contact (02) 6212 3624

NEW SOUTH WALES

Changing Landscapes – Commonwealth Building and Land Records in the National Archives, History Week Seminar, 18 Sept, 120 Miller Road, Chester Hill, Sydney. Contact (02) 9645 0141

Progress and Unity, 20–22 Sept, NSW and ACT Association of Family History Societies Annual Conference 2002. Speakers and trade displays at the RSM Club, Canterbury Street, Casino, NSW. Contact (02) 6662 8114

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Archives Reading Room, 78 Angas St, Adelaide will be open on Saturday, 16 Nov, 10am – 4pm.

Regional tour, Yorke Peninsula, SA, 21–25 October. Information sessions will be held at various venues.
Contact (08) 8409 8401

BRISBANE

Joint seminar on the holdings and services of the National Archives, Queensland State Archives and John Oxley Library. 7 Sept, Uniting Church, Westcourt, Cairns. 8 Sept, Eacham Historical Resource Centre, Malanda. Contact Elaine Tranter on (07) 4097 2147

Photophobia, 26 Oct. Joint seminar on the photographic collections of the National Archives, Queensland State Archives and John Oxley Library. Held at the John Oxley Library, State Library of Queensland, Southbank. Bookings: (07) 3840 7887

VICTORIA

Goulburn & Murray Association of Local & Family History Groups Annual EXPO, 16 Nov, display stand at the Mulwala & District Services Club, Melbourne St, Mulwala. Contact Sandra Riordan on (03) 9285 7900.



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Preservation and disaster recovery inquiries

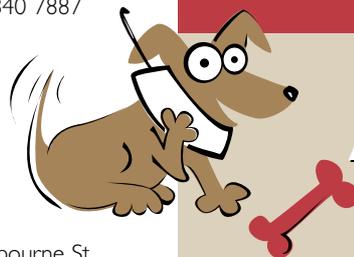
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