

# PAST MATTERS

CAMPERDOWN & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC.

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October, 2018

## President:

**Rob Wuchatsch**

## Vice President:

**Bob Lambell**

## Secretary:

**Maree Belyea**

## Treasurer:

**Jan Whamond**

## Committee:

**Bob Lambell**

**HC Co-ordinator**

**Gillian Senior**

**Newsletter &  
Communications**

**Ray Watson**

**Photographs**

**Angela Preiss**

**Web design etc.**

## **Camperdown Heritage Centre**

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[www.camperdownhistory.org.au](http://www.camperdownhistory.org.au)

### **Opening Hours:**

Tuesdays & 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of  
month (Market Day) 10am-  
3pm or by appointment.

### **In this issue:**

- P1. From the Heritage Centre
- P2. Coming Events
- P 3-4 AGM & Pres. Report  
Corrections & Facebook
- P 5-6 HC Jottings & News,  
Website, Coragulac & Beeac,  
New Pres-New Book.
- P7 Farewell Frank Rose.
- P8-10 The Saga of Dawson's  
Scrapbook  
C'dn Theatre Co. 70<sup>th</sup>  
Anniversary.

Hello to all our members,

We welcome to the job of President our past Vice President, Rob Wuchatsch, and we also welcome to our Committee, Angela Preiss. Angela has been a valuable contributor to the CDHS for quite a few years already as our Web designer and advisor on many things to do with the Internet. She's now a regular volunteer and a great addition to our Tuesdays as well as to Committee meetings.

Outgoing President Bob Lambell gave a full and detailed report at the AGM which is published here in full. It was a year of many achievements and the report is a great record of all the work done at the Heritage Centre by members and by the Shire.

The page listing all our group visitors etc. shows just how busy the last three months has been at the Centre. Certainly, we feel we are providing a service that is well used by the community here and further afield.

We bid a sad farewell to Life Member Frank Rose. The listing of all his interests and achievements over his 87 years makes some of us wonder how he fitted it all in. Frank was a treasured contributor to our community.

James Dawson's Scrapbook, a fascinating collection of items from 1860s to 1900, suddenly became a subject of great interest to two organisations. Last month, the Society met with representatives from the State Library of Victoria and Blackfella Films Inc. in Canberra as both entities visited us to discuss the book's value and its possible future.

A warm welcome to new members: Geoff Senior and others.

*Gillian Senior*, Newsletter Editor

## **From the Heritage Centre**

### **Local Aboriginal Artefacts**

Much of local Aboriginal history has been lost but we are fortunate to have in our collection some relics of the ancient civilisation that was here for thousands of years before white settlement.

The Aboriginal cutting & scraping tool was found at Leslie Manor and donated by A. G. MacLachlan. The Stone Axe was found between Lake Colongulac and Lake Kariah by Mr. W. Blackley.

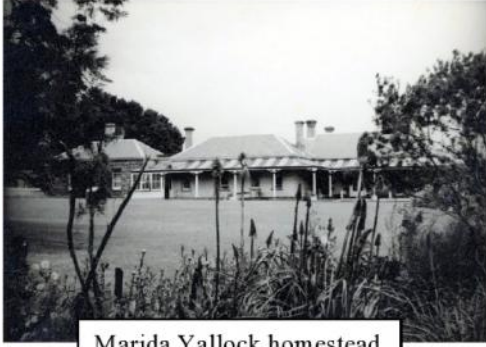


**COMING EVENTS: NOVEMBER 2018 - JANUARY 2019**

Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> November, 9.30 am: Executive meeting at the Heritage Centre

**A visit to  
"MARIDA YALLOCK", at Boorcan**

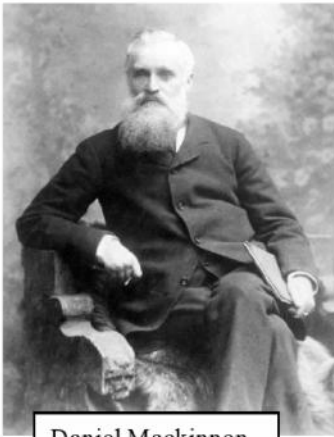
**Tuesday, 11<sup>th</sup> December**



Marida Yallock homestead

For our final meeting of the year, Viv and Donald Mackinnon have kindly agreed to allow us to visit their historic home "Marida Yallock" at Boorcan. Donald is a descendant of pioneer pastoralists Daniel and Jane Mackinnon, who purchased Marida Yallock in 1852.

This is a rare opportunity to visit this wonderful property and to learn about its fascinating history.



Daniel Mackinnon



Jane Mackinnon

**Depart from Camperdown Heritage Centre at 6.15 pm.**

**BYO picnic tea**

**Bookings:**

**Maree Belyea, Ph. 5593 1273**

**Bob Lambell, Ph. 0424 220 809**

**Email: [camperdowndhs@gmail.com](mailto:camperdowndhs@gmail.com)**

**RSVP by Friday 7<sup>th</sup> December**

***NOTE: This is a strictly members & partners only event***

Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> January, 9.30 am: Executive meeting at the Heritage Centre

## Annual General Meeting, 21<sup>st</sup> August 2018

Our AGM back in August was very well attended and, as listed on the front page of *Past Matters*, we now have a new President, Robert (Rob) Wuchatsch.

**SUBSCRIPTIONS DUE:** Membership renewal forms were mailed out and payments are still coming in. Direct payments can be made at: Bendigo Bank, BSB 633-000 Acc.No.162449532. (NB This has been changed since last year.) Renewal forms are not necessary if your address etc. is unchanged. New Membership forms can be downloaded from our Website: [camperdownhistory.org.au](http://camperdownhistory.org.au)

### Outgoing President, Bob Lambell, gave this report

The past year has been a momentous one for our Society. We achieved two major objectives: Firstly to complete long planned improvements to our Heritage Centre and secondly, to publish a book about the founding Scots of Camperdown District.

#### **Heritage Centre improvements**

In 2009 we secured funding from Museums Australia (Victoria) to employ local Architect Paul McPhee to prepare plans for improvements to the Heritage Centre. The aim was to provide improved display and storage space and better facilities for visitors and volunteers. The proposed improvements included:

- Renovation of the old kitchen to provide better refreshment and meeting space for volunteers
- Replacement of the old supper room at the rear of the building to provide better display and storage space
- Construction of a new toilet block on the side of the building to provide safe and accessible toilets for volunteers and visitors.

The improvements over the years have been achieved through a close working relationship between our Society and Corangamite Shire - the owner of the building. Funding for the works has come from the Shire, our Society and external grants.



*That was then....(rain, hail or shine!)*



*This is now. SUCH an improvement!*



*Shelving is being organised downstairs and displays are on the way - eventually!*

Renovation of the old kitchen was completed in 2012, but funds proved much more difficult to find for the expensive renovation of the old supper room and construction of the new toilet block.

After many submissions and much negotiation, Corangamite Shire Council approved funding of the improvements in their 2017/2018 budget. Our Society contributed \$5000.00 towards the cost of the improvements and contributed a further \$5000.00 by way of a grant we received from the Foundation for Regional & Rural Renewal (FRRR).

We are extremely grateful for the support Corangamite Shire has given us. The cost to the Shire has been substantial. I think this reflects the Council's recognition of the importance of preserving and promoting our local history and their confidence in our Society to deliver.

#### **Founding Scots book**

Our book *Scotland to Australia Felix: Founding Scots of Victoria's Camperdown District* was launched by Mr. Richard Riordan MLA, at the May 2018 Camperdown Robert Burns Scottish Festival.

The book has been a long time in gestation. Work started in 2009 sparked by the senseless vandalism of Camperdown's Robert Burns statue. Research associated with the statue's restoration brought to light the prominence of Scots in the European settlement of the district and their immense contribution to our social and economic progress.

Over the next few years our Society volunteers researched and published three booklets about the lives of Camperdown's 'Notable Scots'. The booklets proved very popular, so we decided to consolidate and expand the work about our 'founding Scots' into one volume.



In 2016 our Society was granted substantial funding from the Victorian Government and Public Record Office Victoria to publish our book. We should feel justly proud of what we have achieved. It took hundreds of hours of meticulous research, editing and formatting to bring the book to fruition. I thank everyone who has in anyway contributed to the publication, but would particularly like to acknowledge the hard work of our 'Scots Book Committee': Rob Wuchatsch, Gillian Senior, Maree Belyea, Jan Whamond, Ray Watson and myself.



Rob Wuchatsch chaired the committee and his experience as a published author was invaluable. At times Rob drove the committee mad with his uncompromising insistence on correct grammar, historical accuracy and consistency, But Rob was right and as a result we have ended up with a very high quality, creditable publication.

### **So what else for the year?**

I've focused on two major achievements for the year, but our Society has been active in many other areas.

Members have enjoyed our great quarterly newsletter and Facebook page put together by our Communications Officer, Gillian Senior.

Members have also enjoyed some wonderful guest speakers and field trips.

Our dedicated Heritage Centre volunteers have been busy sorting and cataloguing the collection, dealing with research requests and showing visitors around the Centre.

We had a major input to the 2018 Camperdown Robert Burns Scottish Festival. There were special openings and displays at the Heritage Centre and we again coordinated the very popular lecture series.

I want to pay special tribute to the outstanding work of Maree Belyea. Besides being our efficient Secretary and head researcher, Maree was the driving force behind the Camperdown Lions Club's wonderful heritage information signs dotted around the town. Maree and the Lions Club have received many accolades for their work. Most significantly, in June this year Maree was awarded a prestigious Lions Club International President's Medal for her role in coordinating the project. Very well deserved Maree!

### **In conclusion**

To everyone in the Society who has contributed as an office bearer, committee member, Heritage Centre volunteer, or by simply being a member, I would like to express my sincere thanks.

*Bob Lambell*

**President**

EDITOR'S NOTE: It should also be noted that the amount of work put in by Bob himself demands recognition. His organising ability and his contribution of time, energy and expertise are invaluable to the successful running of the society. Thank you, Bob.

### **CORRECTIONS**

Rosalind Stansmore, who is a member of the McArthur family, has made a couple of corrections to the article about the exciting paper chase in our last edition:

*.... two corrections about Gordon's relationship to the two letter writers....C.McArthur is his uncle Campbell McArthur of Puunyard not Colin (who is actually Gordon's Cousin) and Isla is not his aunt but his 16 year old sister.... (and the letter reads like it's from a very excited teenager don't you think!!!)*

(Lovely to hear from you Ros, and thanks for putting us right. Ed.)

### **FACEBOOK**

In early September we received a message from the birthplace of Fannie Curdie in Scotland. She was one of our "Inspiring Women" who has also featured in our "Scotland to Australia Felix" book. We corresponded with the Historical Society there and exchanged all our information about Fannie – her early life in Scotland from them and her life here as the wife of a prominent doctor and botanist from us. We were both thrilled to add to our knowledge of such an Inspiring Woman and of course, the new information is now in our files.



## HERITAGE CENTRE - Jottings and News

It's been such a busy three months at the heritage Centre since our last "Past Matters" that a listing of all that's happened will keep members up to date with our activities.

**7<sup>th</sup> August** The back room rebuild was finished enough for us to get all the big machinery back in after it had been sitting outside for a couple of months, swathed in blue plastic to protect it from the weather. A call for help brought in our neighbours, Paul Theologius with his fork-lift and Rod and Tom from Trevor Lee's next door and with Bob Lambell's assistance it was all in place at last. Eventually they will all be displayed properly and we can invite visitors downstairs to see them.



**14<sup>th</sup> August** Hampden Special School students visited to continue their studies about Aboriginal history in the district. Bob Lambell gave them a talk and they were able to examine lots of pictures and some Aboriginal artefacts we have on display.

**28<sup>th</sup> August** Pip Robertson & Denise Gore called in asking for information about the Field Gun that had once been displayed in the Avenue near the Clocktower. We were able to help with some history and a picture of a similar one that had been in the Botanic Gardens. The search for the gun's present whereabouts goes on.

**29<sup>th</sup> August** Bob Lambell hosted a group from the Josie Black Community Centre in Terang.

**4<sup>th</sup> September** Jesse van Wollingen, History teacher from Camperdown College, called in asking if we had any information about local servicemen from World War I. His students had research projects to do on the subject and he was delighted when we were able to provide him with a digital copy of Mrs Collie's Scrapbook. This is a collection of newspaper clippings covering reports, letters and personal histories of almost all the local young men who served in that war. Another very satisfied customer!



**11<sup>th</sup> September** A visit from Adam and Rachel Perkins of Blackfella Films, interested in James Dawson's Scrapbook. (Full story in the major article later in this newsletter.)

**18<sup>th</sup> September** A visit from Dr. Kevin Molloy of State Library of Victoria, also interested in James Dawson's Scrapbook. (Full story as above)

**4<sup>th</sup> October** A visit from Terang Family History Group – hosted by Jan Whamond and Bob Lambell.

**8<sup>th</sup> October** A visit from Hamilton Ladies Probus Club – hosted by Sue Cole and Gillian Senior.

**11<sup>th</sup> October** Bob Lambell visited Camperdown Community House to give a talk on the CDHS activities.

**17<sup>th</sup> October** Special Event organised for members: A visit to Coragulac House with morning tea, lunch at the Beeac Farmer's Arms Hotel and a conducted tour of Historic Beeac. (Full report below)

All this in addition to our usual work at the Centre. This involves: cataloguing our collection (an everlasting job!), arranging displays, greeting visitors, assisting them in their enquiries, researching, selling books and one job that is becoming increasingly necessary – transcribing handwritten documents so that future generations can actually read them! It's a busy life but a happy one!



## WEBSITE UPDATE



Our newest Committee Member, Angela Preiss, has the skills we badly need as the internet revolution continues apace. Her main job for the past month or so has been updating and re-designing our webpage. There are too many things to list here but click on [www.camperdownhistory.org.au](http://www.camperdownhistory.org.au) and have a browse through it.

An important addition is the listing of all the books we have for sale and an online ordering facility. There's also a direct connection now with our Facebook page, so that all postings there, go onto the webpage in our Latest News section.

We are also promoting a special book/DVD package which will make a very good present for any occasion – birthday, anniversary or Christmas. Check it out.

It's a good idea to visit the website regularly to see what new things are happening.



**Heritage Centre Specials**  
*Gift Wrapped Local History*  
\$45 Scots Book, Inspiring Women & DVD  
\$40 Scots Book & Inspiring Women  
\$40 Scots Book & DVD of Historic Short Films  
Purchase from our Heritage Centre Tuesdays 10am-3pm

## CORAGULAC HOUSE AND BEEAC TRIP



We had a great turn-up of members and friends for this terrific event. Thirty-seven people took advantage of the opportunity to have a conducted tour of this magnificent mansion just out of Colac. The current owners, Gary & Sharyn Gibson, bought the mansion in 2012 and in the short time since then they have worked wonders. From rooms which had buckets catching dripping rain, they now

have a number of rooms completely renovated and furnished. Sharyn Gibson was a wonderful guide for the group, giving the history of the house as well as the story of their own hard work and achievements.

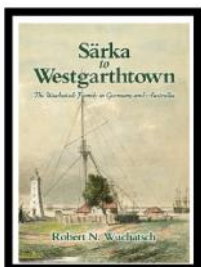
From Coragulac the party had a delicious lunch at the Beeac Farmers Arms Hotel and this was followed by a conducted tour of Beeac by Colac Historical Society President, Robert Missen.

Fortunately, the rain held off until towards the end of the day when most of the party were ready to make for home.

The pictures here were taken during the day's activities and you can see more of Coragulac House on **the website:** <https://www.coragulachouse.com/>

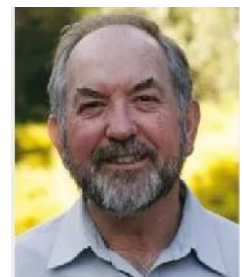


## A NEW BOOK FROM OUR NEW PRESIDENT



Rob Wuchatsch has been a prolific researcher and writer of historical books and articles for many years. He lives at Stony Rises property on the Princes Highway just out of Pirron Yallock and has been a member of CDHS for more than ten years. He has served as our Vice President for a number of terms and has now taken on the job of President.

His latest book, which chronicles his own family's history from Germany to Australia, will be launched on 28<sup>th</sup> October in Westgarthtown, Lalor. You can visit his website <https://www.stonyrisesrun.com.au/> to learn more about Rob and his writings.



## FAREWELL FRANK ROSE – MAN OF THE COMMUNITY - 1931-2018

We're sad to realise that Frank is no longer with us, but very happy to remember his many contributions to the Camperdown and wider community.

The number of different organisations which were privileged to have Frank as a member are many. As **Manager of the Camperdown Hospital** from 1964 to 1985, he was efficient and much admired. An excerpt from South West Health Care's notice in the Camperdown Chronicle says: *He played an important part in ensuring that the hospital employed great staff and delivered great services to the community. Frank was widely respected and is remembered affectionately by all the staff at Camperdown Hospital who worked with him during his tenure. His significant contribution to this wonderful hospital will never be forgotten.*

An active member of the **Rotary Club of Camperdown Inc.** for 53 years, he was President for three years, Secretary for 19 years and also served terms as District Secretary and District Governor.



*Botanic Gardens Stall, 1998*

He was a founding member and keen supporter of the **Camperdown Botanic Gardens and Arboretum Trust**, where he is pictured here manning a combined Historical Society and Botanic Gardens Stall in the Caravan Park in 1998.

He was also a founding member of the **Kilnoorat Cemetery Trust** with which he was still involved at their most recent meeting on Tuesday, 16<sup>th</sup> October. Recently, at Frank's suggestion, the Trust began holding their meetings in the Heritage Centre at 3 o'clock after we closed on a Tuesday. As Frank explained, the members were all getting older and their usual meeting rooms at the Bookaar School were cold and too far out of town, so we were very happy to leave Frank in charge of locking up after they had their meeting.

One of Frank's enduring passions was his fondness for anything to do with railways – particularly steam railways. He was a member of either the **Australian Railway Historical Society** or **Steam Rail Victoria** – or possibly both – and for many years he regularly attended meetings in Melbourne. In recent years he had been on many railway excursions, tours and holidays organised by the societies. One of his most enjoyable ones in recent years was a tour to New Zealand where a group of railway enthusiasts travelled together and trips were taken on a number of different railways in the mountains of the South Island.

On Australia Day 2004, The Shire declared Frank Citizen of the Year, a well-deserved honour.

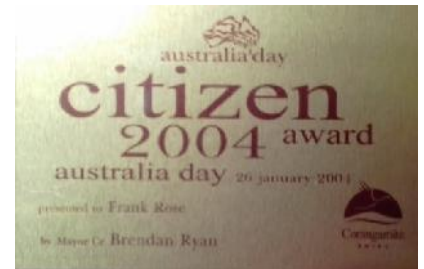
As a qualified accountant, Frank was always willing to audit the books for many clubs and societies in the town and his work was always thorough and meticulous.

So now we come to his long membership of the Camperdown & District Historical Society. Although not a founding member, a first mention of him in minutes was an apology in October, 1967 which means he has been a member for at least 51 years. He served on the Committee from 1969 until 1985 when his term at the hospital finished. He remained a member and was our regular Auditor at the end of each financial year.

He was our President for seven years from 2000, Vice President for six years and was then our Treasurer for four years. He was always willing to travel to the meetings of the Western Victoria Association of Historical Societies to report on our activities and catch up with various other societies.

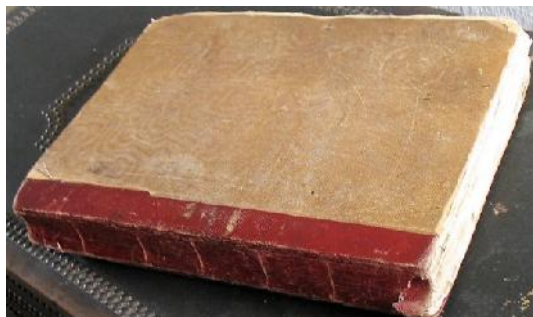
In 2016 he decided to retire as Treasurer but continued to visit the Heritage Centre on Tuesdays to balance our weekly cash book. It was about this time that Frank found it was becoming more and more difficult to live on his own and handle all the necessary household chores. He became unwell and was very pleased when he learnt that there would soon be a place for him at Sunnyside House Aged Hostel. After a short time in hospital, Frank moved to Sunnyside House and from then on, his life became so much easier. He regained his strength, there was once more a (small) spring in his step, he smiled cheerfully again and had nothing but praise for the accommodation and care he received there.

He was always keen to attend any of our members' events, joining us on trips to local Homesteads, Melbourne excursions, Christmas breakups, etc. Always friendly and jovial, and willing to help out whenever he could, we will all miss him dreadfully.





# THE SAGA OF THE JAMES DAWSON SCRAPBOOK



For many years, James Dawson's Scrapbook has been in the safe-keeping of Sue Cole – Dawson's great-great-granddaughter – having been passed down through the generations after Dawson's death.

There was never any doubt that it was a valuable document, covering as it does entries from the early 1860s to Dawson's death in 1900.

James Dawson's interests were wide and varied and the scrapbook consists of newspaper cuttings, handwritten notes and letters, photographs, sketches and a number of his own 'Letters to the Editor' of various newspapers. It is an amazing collection of subjects ranging from Aboriginal culture and languages to taxidermy, botany, native wildlife, recipes, and many others. Arriving in Australia from Scotland in 1840, Dawson always kept up an interest in Scottish affairs, so there are letters and cuttings from Scottish newspapers and correspondents as well.

There was a time that the scrapbook was nearly lost when a previous custodian, James Dawson's granddaughter, Katie Winter, died. Executors were cleaning out the house when Sue's great-aunt, Win Carstairs (née Thornton) a great-granddaughter of Dawson's arrived to pick up some furniture. She noticed the book on a truck which was about to go to the tip. Mrs Carstairs quickly rescued it and kept it safely for some years. Eventually, she passed it on to Sue as the eldest great-great-grandchild and Sue has always felt very honoured to have it in her care.

Some years ago it was copied onto microfilm which is held at the Latrobe Library in Melbourne.

A complete photocopy of the scrapbook is held by the CDHS and is a great resource for research into many different subjects. However, as it has over 200 pages, each of which could contain as many as ten or twelve items per page, the only way to find a particular subject means looking over every page in detail – a long and time-consuming process.

## PERHAPS IT COULD BE DIGITISED?

Some months ago, a discussion was started at the Society about whether the book could be digitised for computer to make it available as a searchable document. A phone call was made to the State Library of Victoria asking whether, since they held the microfilm, they would be interested in digitising the book. Eventually, the library decided that yes, they would be able to do the digitising and make it available to the society.

There was one condition, however. They would only digitise it if they were given ownership of the scrapbook. Their reasons were a little complicated, having to do with copyright and the need to own something that was to be made available to the public. They also made the point that the book would be kept in optimum conditions and cared for by an institution whose sole responsibility was protecting and preserving the past.

As the book was already well over a hundred years old, Sue knew that it needed to be properly cared for and she also felt there was some small risk that future generations may not always realise its historic value. After discussing the offer with her family she decided that a meeting with the State Library representative should take place and so a date was set for Dr Kevin Molloy, Manager of Manuscripts at the SLV, to visit Camperdown and discuss the project with Sue, with CDHS committee members acting in an advisory capacity.

## A NEW DEVELOPMENT

Unexpectedly, a further development took place. The following message was received on Facebook:

*Hi, I am doing research into the James Dawson "Scrapbook" and have been told that the original is held by his descendants who still reside in the area. I was wondering if you might have any information that might help me get in touch with them. Regards, Adam Perkins*



This sounded really interesting and more correspondence followed:

**CDHS:**

*Yes, Adam, one of our members is the great-great granddaughter of James Dawson and she currently has the scrapbook. Our society also has a photocopy of the scrapbook in our Museum/Heritage Centre. It is also available online as a microfish document from National library of Victoria. What is it you particularly want to know?*

**ADAM:**

*Great! We are doing research for a documentary for SBS relating to Aboriginal contact and conflict. It would be great to have an opportunity to meet with James's G-G-granddaughter. Would it be possible to have a quick look at the photocopy of the scrapbook either early morning or late afternoon Tuesday next week?*

**CDHS:**

*Sounds interesting! I'll contact Sue Cole (the g-g-g'dtr) and get back to you about the best time to chat to her. No problem seeing the photocopy. We also have an original edition of Dawson's book on Australia Aborigines which is credited to him but more than likely was partly - or mostly - the work of his daughter, Isabella Dawson-Taylor (Sue's g-grandmother). Also lots of info about Dawson which you may or may not have. Also heaps of info about Aboriginal contact and conflict. (we're a big 'Squatter' region!)*

The upshot of all this was a meeting arranged for 3pm on the Tuesday a week before our scheduled meeting with the State Library of Victoria.

## BLACKFELLA FILMS

A little research revealed that Adam Perkins is the younger brother of Rachel Perkins, the founder in 1992 of Blackfella Films which has produced a whole list of successful and award-winning programs and films e.g. **First Australians, Mabo, The Tall Man** and many others. She is a successful writer/director and producer. She and Adam are the children of Charles Perkins AO, soccer player, activist, administrator and the first Aboriginal man to graduate from university.

When Adam Perkins arrived on Tuesday, 11<sup>th</sup> September, Rachel was with him and both were delighted to meet with Sue Cole, Bob Lambell and Gillian Senior. The visitors were able to examine the photocopy of the scrapbook and there were discussions about a huge range of subjects to do with Aboriginal presence in the district and James Dawson's role as Guardian of Local Aborigines.



They are working on a three-part series for SBS entitled **First Contact and Conflict** and, as they explained, so much of the history is bad and negative they would love to include the positive story of James Dawson because of his championing of the Aboriginal cause and his admiration of their culture.

After two hours of fascinating and quite intense conversation, the Perkins were provided with a great quantity of information and photographs and an invitation to keep in touch for anything more they needed. They emphasised that they work in a very co-operative manner and will be back in touch with the Society when they have a script ready for us to check.

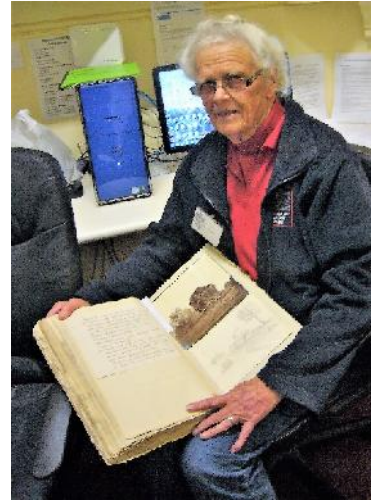
When we mentioned that we were about to meet with the State Library of Victoria to discuss ownership of the scrapbook, Rachel was very interested to know just what they intended to do with it. She wondered whether the Australian Institute of Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islanders Studies (AIATSIS), of which she is a council member, might be a better place for it to be stored. This suggestion was discussed but it was decided that, although there was a lot of reference to Aborigines in the book, there were many other subjects as well and the book would probably be better kept in Victoria rather than Canberra.

## STATE LIBRARY OF VICTORIA

And so, the following week, on Tuesday, 18<sup>th</sup> September, we had the meeting with Dr Molloy of the SLV. Again, there were long discussion about the value of the book and how it should be kept safely. Sue brought the original book in to the Heritage Centre for Dr Molloy to examine and he was very impressed with its good condition and with the huge range of subjects covered in the collection. He was interested to learn that AIATSIS was aware of the book and might be willing to take care of it. This did mean that he became a little keener to be the one Sue chose to give it to and so she was able to arrange certain 'conditions of transfer of ownership'.

These conditions are:

1. SLV to make a complete digital copy of the document.
2. The digital copy to be given to the donor, Susan Cole.
3. The digital copy to be made freely available online through the SLV website.
4. Digitising to be done as soon as possible and uploaded to the website when SLV's new online system is up and running.
5. Original document to be made available for viewing to family and descendants of the donor.



After the Deed of Gift and Schedule of Conditions were signed by both parties, a couple of photos recorded the momentous event and then all participants sat down and had their lunch together – a very friendly occasion. Sue then showed Dr Molloy around our Heritage Centre and he was extremely impressed with our collections and all our storage and recording facilities. Hearing such praise from someone who has had many years of experience with museums all over the world was very gratifying.

At last, with the Dawson Scrapbook safely packed into the SLV's car, it was time for Dr Molloy to set off back to Melbourne.

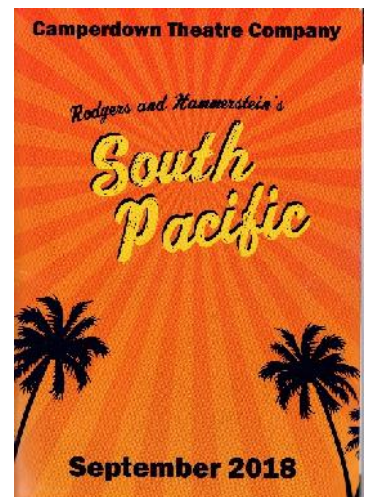
We now await news of the digitisation being available. Once we know it's done, we will make it available to our members and others.

## AN IMPORTANT LOCAL ANNIVERSARY

There are many historical anniversaries occurring throughout the year in Camperdown and one important one was celebrated last month by the Camperdown Theatre Company Inc.

Quoting from their latest program for the hugely successful production of "South Pacific", the company was formed in 1948 as the Camperdown Repertory Society and since then, they have produced more than 125 productions. They now celebrate their 70<sup>th</sup> year. Renamed the Camperdown Theatre Company in 1984, they have continued to entertain local audiences and involve hundreds of people, young and old, in their organisation. Whether onstage, backstage, in administration or front-of-house, the magic of theatre has captured members of every age. New skills have been learnt, confidence boosted and co-operation between huge numbers of people have all demonstrated the value participating in a community organisation such as CTC.

Congratulations to all for such a long and successful history.





**Camperdown & District Historical Society**  
PO Box 31 Camperdown Vic. 3260

**POSTAGE  
PAID  
AUSTRALIA**