President’s Message from Earl James

The Annual General Meeting will shortly be upon us. You should have received your notice of the meeting by now. Once again we will have a garden party in the afternoon followed by a meeting at Burnett House. The timing of the meeting will give members the flexibility of being able to travel in daylight and have no interference with planned evening activities. Don’t forget:

    AGM: 3pm on Saturday 14th March, Burnett House, Larrakeyah.

And if you live in the Darwin area and you can’t come, please apologise to Janie Mason.

I have invited the President of the Federation of Australian Historical Societies (FAHS) to attend our AGM. He is yet to accept but from what he has said so far there is a distinct possibility that he will come. If he comes I will give him an opportunity to tell members what the Federation is all about.

Last month I told you that our efforts to gain a permanent headquarters in the Lyons Cottage on the Darwin Esplanade were fruitless. Now, sadly, I have to tell you that our efforts with the Department of Lands have ended the same way. The Dept put it this way: “a review of the departmental asset portfolio has now been conducted, and found, that there is no available accommodation which would suit the requirements of the Society”. This was very disappointing and especially so since the department had urged us to put in the application. Now we must persist with the not very acceptable accommodation that we have. If anyone has any knowledge of a venue that might be available at a reasonable rental please tell me about it.

When you received the notice of meeting for the AGM you also received a nomination form for office. Please give it your consideration. We need additional faces at council meetings; faces with new ideas; faces that are younger; faces that are committed to the preservation of history. We had fifty members attend the Christmas Soiree. I hope to see a similar number at the AGM. See you there.
FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Tuesday 3 March - The Albert Borella Ride (more information about Borella on page 5)

Travelling Borella Display
The display can be viewed 10am to 1pm in the Smith Street Mall.

Walk with the Borella Ride
Walk with the Borella Ride as it completes its journey through Bicentennial Park, The Esplanade to Stokes Hill Wharf to join in the final farewell to Borella as “he boards his ship to Townsville to enlist in the Australian Armed Forces.” This segment will be presented by Ray Martin.

If you are able to wear a 1915 costume to mark the occasion and want to be involved in the filming of the documentary, you are welcome to register. Registrations are taken before 4pm at Bicentennial Park, opposite One30 Esplanade & Daly Street. The Walk is 3km long and commences at 4.15pm.

The Borella Ride – Final Farewell
The Final Farewell will take place at Stokes Hill Wharf from 5pm to 7pm

For more information www.theborellaride.com.au

Wednesday 4 March – Ted Ling’s Book Launch at NT Archives Service, Kelsey Crescent, Milner at 5.30pm

Ted’s book Blame and Martyrs: The Commonwealth Government and the Northern Territory Cattle Industry 1911-1978 will be launched by Emeritus Professor Alan Powell. The book launch will be held at the Northern Territory Archives Service, Kelsey Crescent, Milner. The book will be on sale for $30 (cash only)

Everyone is welcome to attend.

Refreshments will follow the launch

About the Author

Ted Ling worked for the National Archives of Australia for 31 years. After his retirement in 2006 he commenced a PhD on the Northern Territory’s cattle industry during the Commonwealth period of administration, which he completed in 2010. Since then he has prepared a number of research guides on behalf of the Archives, relating to records held in the Archives Darwin, Adelaide and Canberra Offices. His other interests include reading and travelling
Thursday 12 March at 5.15pm - Borella VC - Territory Hero of the Great War by Dr Tom Lewis OAM at the NT Library

Who was Albert Borella? Melbourne fireman, militia soldier, adventurer to the Outback interior, he was working around Tennant Creek when he made the journey to Darwin to enlist in the First World War. He made his way walking, by horse, mail cart and rail. Borella then had to travel to Townsville by boat to enlist in the Army. Once in Europe he served in Gallipoli with the 26th Battalion; transferred with it to the Western Front, was promoted three times, wounded, commissioned as an officer, and decorated three times - finally with the VC for an infantry action where he led from the front. Borella survived the war and returned to Australia, he raised a family, and served with Home Forces when once again duty called in the Second World War.

Friday 13 March – Talk and Book Launch by Pearl Ogden at the Kennon Estate 4.30pm for a 5pm start – ending at 7pm

Pearl will be presenting a compilation of stories on Barbara James and her life. Katrina Fong Lim, Darwin Lord Mayor will launch Pearl’s latest publication *Territorians and Their Way of Life*. Refreshments and a walk around the Kennon Estate will follow. Bring a chair if you need to sit.

Kennon Estate is located on the corner of Menmuir Street and Coonawarra Road.

For catering purposes, RSVP by 11 March Email: Pearls_place@bigpond.com or Ph: 89852217

Saturday 14 March at 3pm - The Society’s AGM

Our AGM will be held in the gardens of the National Trust’s Burnett House. The meeting will be a “garden party” with afternoon tea provided by the Larrakeyah Branch of the National Trust and champagne supplied by the Historical Society. The 2014 AGM minutes, nomination form and agenda have already been sent out to members. The Audit Report will be available at the meeting. All positions are open and we welcome new Committee members.

Friday 27 March - National Trust & Historical Society Talk at Burnett House – 5.30 for a 6pm start

The speaker will be Dr Stephen Hamilton who will talk about the Charles Darwin University Arafura Research Archive. The Arafura Research Archive (ARA) in the CDU Library collects and preserves the papers of individuals and organizations associated with the University. Archivist Stephen Hamilton will talk about the role of the Archive and describe some of its key collections. More information about the Archive is at the end of this newsletter.

Entry: $2 for members, $5 for non-members

Telephone enquiries to Julie: 8946 6835 BH, 8927 9459 AH

Members and guests are reminded that food and drink cannot be taken inside Burnett House
George Woodroffe Goyder Commemoration – 5 February

The National Trust marked the arrival of Goyder and his party to Port Darwin, 146 years ago. Included in the reenactment was the arrival of Goyder (Chris Renahan) in the “Moonta” and the pegging out of Darwin town. About 70 people turned up to witness the event. This followed with great music by the Arafura Wind Ensemble, displays, refreshments and buckets of atmosphere.

Chris Renahan as George Goyder

Chris Renahan with Craig Sandy, the Northern Territory Surveyor General

Daryl Manzie, the MC

One of the displays

George Goyder Exhibition at Northern Territory Archives Service, Kelsey Crescent, Milner

The Archives are displaying Goyder’s diary which covers the period from 5 February to 1 March 1869 when Goyder and his men set up camp at Fort Hill, Port Darwin. The exhibition also includes a photographic display and early maps from the Archives collection.

NT Archives are open from 9am until 4.00pm weekdays.
HSNT: Fifty Years of Field Trips

As previously mentioned in our newsletter, this is one of the projects we are mounting, as part of our fifty years celebration, is a retrospective of the Society field trips. We are almost there but are missing photographs from the HSNT field trips listed below.

If you have any photos (hard copies or digital) from these trips, please let Brian know. We are able to scan any hard copies. If we use your photographs, you will be acknowledged in the book.

2001 Keep River/2002 Tennant Creek/2006 Western Top End/2007 Lower Mary River

Contact Brian Reid via Email: bandlreid@bigpond.com or Ph: 0429389840

The Historical Society’s Publishing Programme – Correction (November-February 2015 Newsletter)

Oopps out of the 58 books the Society has published, we missed one. Rosemary Kennedy’s book was omitted. Apologies to Rosemary for this oversight. Rosemary’s most interesting book is titled: *Mabel Taylor's Diary and Letters from Alice Springs 1905-1907*, HSNT, Darwin, 2012.

The Albert Borella Victoria Cross Exhibition & Borella’s War

In 1915, Albert Borella walked, rode and took the train from Tennant Creek to Darwin (1000 klns) to enlist in World War1. In 1918, Lieutenant Borella ran across a French battlefield and single handedly, with only a revolver, attacked a German machinegun. He then led his remaining 10 men to successfully take a German garrison. For his brave action, Borella was awarded the Victoria Cross.

On 20 February in Tennant Creek, a reenactment commenced retracing Borella’s footsteps. Along the journey to Darwin, community events will take place at Banka Banka, Renner Springs, Elliott, Dunmarra, Daly Waters, Larrimah, Mataranka, Katherine, Pine Creek, Adelaide River and will end in Darwin on 3 March with the official arrival ceremony taking place at Stokes Hill Wharf. To commemorate Borella’s journey, The Albert Borella Victoria Cross Exhibition is currently being held in the main hall, Parliament House, and Borella’s War Exhibition is on display at the NT Library.
Vale Julie Therese Wells – a tribute by Dr Mickey Dewar

Julie was born in Maffra, Victoria on 26 December 1952 and she died peacefully at the Bays Hospital, Mornington, Victoria on 28 January 2015

Julie Wells is remembered as a loved friend, academic, historian and teacher. She was a long time member of the Historical Society and a well published author. One of her recent articles “With a Little Help from Canberra: Setting up the NT News” was published in the Society’s 2014 journal with another article to be published in the forthcoming 2015 journal.

Together with her partner Peter Quinn, they drove to Darwin in the early 1980s. Julie, an honours history graduate from the University of Melbourne had previously taught at Preston Technical College (now part of the North Melbourne Institute of TAFE). Her first job in the Territory was at Casuarina High School (now Casuarina Senior College). Several years later and following the birth of their son Tom, Julie and Peter travelled through Italy.

The family returned to Darwin and Julie began lecturing at the Darwin Institute of Technology now Charles Darwin University (CDU). Julie taught across a number of disciplines reflecting her personal commitment and professional expertise: Adult Education, Tertiary Entrance programs and the Aboriginal Task Force, a forerunner of CDU’s Australian Centre for Indigenous Knowledges and Education (ACIKE).

Julie won a scholarship to pursue doctoral studies at the University College of the Northern Territory and gained her PhD in 1995 through the University of Queensland. Her thesis on post-war Commonwealth policy in the Territory, ‘The Long March: Assimilation Policy and Practice in Darwin, the Northern Territory 1939-1967’, documents the legacy this period has had on Aboriginal policy in the Territory and remains a landmark work on this topic. She continued to publish in a number of books and journals.

Julie’s career moved into university administration, first in the Faculty of Education and then as Assistant to the Vice Chancellor a role she held for several years working with Professor Ron McKay, Professor Ken McKinnon and Professor Helen Garnett. Julie held these roles during the formative years for Charles Darwin University.

She returned to history as a consultant public historian but was recruited to the Northern Territory Public Service to the position of Director of the Northern Territory Teacher Registration Board. Julie also served on the Board of Relationships Australia (NT).

During minor and unrelated surgery Julie’s illness was discovered, and it was already well advanced. After more than thirty years in the Territory, Julie and Peter made the decision to travel south to spend their remaining time with close family. They shared three more years together and in this time Julie continued to publish.

Julie died in the company of her family with her beloved partner of forty years, Peter Quinn, and her son Tom Wells-Quinn.

The HSNT Committee conveys their condolences to Julie’s family and friends
Australasian Mining History Association Conference in Darwin

The Conference organisers need a volunteer who is a bit IT savvy with laptop/powerpoint presentations. The conference will be held at the Museum theatrette during the day from Monday 22 to Thursday 25 June.

The theatrette has a PC connection and a laptop and instructions are supplied on how to use the projector. The volunteer will also need to organise the presentations in order and load these presentations onto the laptop.

If you can help out please contact: Bev Phelts on 0487413709, 89818236 leave a message or via email: hsnt@iinet.net.au

The Arafura Research Archive

The Arafura Research Archive (ARA) in the Charles Darwin University Library collects and preserves the papers and records of individuals and organisations associated with the University. The Archive was established in 1987 on the Casuarina campus of the Darwin Institute of Technology. As one of the Special Collections of the University Library, the Archive is available to bone fide researchers from within the university and beyond. Key holdings include:

- J.D. Gallacher Collection—the late Jim Gallacher became a senior NT Department of Education official. His 1966-67 Churchill Fellowship to study bi-lingual education in North America was a major influence on the provision of remote and Indigenous education in the NT
- Alan Powell Collection—Professor Powell is an historian of Northern Australia; his extensive collection centres on research materials gathered during the writing of his award winning books
- Northern Territory University Collection—arranged and described following the publication of the history of NTU in 1999
- Cecil Nielson Collection—Ms Nielson was a leading figure in the development and implementation of remote and Indigenous education in the Northern Territory from the 1960s until her retirement in 2004
- Euthanasia Papers—parliamentary submissions and other records relating to the Rights of the Terminally Ill Act 1995 and its subsequent Federal veto, donated by former Chief Minister Marshall Perron and others
- Paul Webb Collection—including Rev Dr Webb’s research into human rights in Burma and elsewhere in the region.

Among recent significant accessions are the papers of the late Nan Giese, former Chancellor of NTU, and of Kevin Sherlock, a long-term collector and bibliographer of material on Timor Leste. The Archive can be contacted by emailing library-administration@cdu.edu.au or by telephoning Archivist Stephen Hamilton on 0468 957 843.
Writers, publishers and readers of maritime history are invited to nominate works for biennial maritime history prizes totalling $5,000, sponsored jointly by the Australian Association for Maritime History (AAMH) and the Australian National Maritime Museum (ANMM). Nominations close on 30 April 2015.

The 2015 Frank Broeze Memorial Maritime History Prize of $4,000 will be awarded for a book treating any aspect of maritime history relating to or affecting Australia, written or co-authored by an Australian citizen or permanent resident, and published between 1 January 2013 and 31 December 2014. The book should be published in Australia in print or as an e-book, although titles written by Australian authors but published overseas may be considered at the discretion of the judges. The prize is open to Australian authors or co-authors of a book-length monograph or compilation of their own works. Edited collections of essays by multiple contributors are not eligible.

The Australian Community Maritime History Prize of $1000 will be awarded to a regional or local museum or historical society for a publication (book, booklet, educational resource kit, CD, DVD or other media) relating to an aspect of maritime history of that region or community, and published between 1 January 2013 and 31 December 2014.

Both prizes reflect the wish of the two sponsoring organisations to promote a broad view of maritime history that demonstrates how the sea and maritime influences have been more central to the shaping of Australia, its people and its culture than has commonly been believed. The major prize is named in honour of the late Professor Frank Broeze (1945–2001) of the University of Western Australia, who has been called the pre-eminent maritime historian of his generation. Professor Broeze was a founding member of the Australian Association for Maritime History, inaugural editor of its scholarly journal The Great Circle, and introduced Australia’s first university course on maritime history. He was the author of many works on Australian maritime history, including the landmark Island Nation (1997), helping to redefine the field in broader terms than ships, sailors and sea power. He reached into economic, business, social and urban histories to make maritime history truly multidisciplinary.

This will be the eighth joint prize for a maritime history book awarded by the two organisations. The first was won by Marsden Hordern for Mariners are Warned (Melbourne University Press, 1989), a study of the explorer of Australian coasts John Lort Stokes.

Winner of the 2013 Maritime History Book Prize was John Ogden for his two-volume work Saltwater People (Cyclops Press, Sydney, 2012). The 2013 Australian Community Maritime History Prize was awarded to Mornington Peninsula Regional Gallery, for Sea of Dreams: The lure of Port Phillip Bay 1830–1914 (2011).

How to Nominate
Nominations for both categories must include photocopies of the dust-jacket or end covers, title page, imprint and contents pages (including an ISBN), plus a short synopsis of the work (minimum 300 words) and a representative sample of the text and any illustrations (for example, one chapter). Copies of any published book reviews of the nominated publication should also be included. The publication itself may also be submitted (strongly recommended for the Australian Community Maritime History Prize).

Following an initial assessment of nominations, shortlisted authors or publishers will be invited to submit three copies of their publication. These will be judged by a committee consisting of Peter Ridgway, president of the Australian Association for Maritime History; Michael Pearson, emeritus professor of history, University of New South Wales; and Jeffrey Mellefont, former editor of the Australian National Maritime Museum’s journal Signals. The prize will be announced and awarded at a time and venue to be advised.

Nominations should be posted or emailed to:

Janine Flew, Publications officer, Australian National Maritime Museum, 2 Murray Street Sydney NSW 2000, Phone 02 9298 3647, Fax 02 9298 3670, Email publications@anmm.gov.au