Select biographical register of staff of the Melbourne Public Library/ Public Library of Victoria, c. 1856–1970

The following details of Library staff mentioned in the memoirs of E La Touche Armstrong, Leigh Scott and Colin McCallum have been compiled by Shona Dewar and John Arnold from a variety of sources including the Victorian Public Service Lists, E La Touche Armstrong, *The Book of the Public Library, Museums, and National Gallery of Victoria: 1856–1906,* Melbourne: The Trustees, 1906, and the *Australian Dictionary of Biography* (adb.anu.edu.au, cited here as *ADB*). Note that in some cases life dates have not been confirmed. Biographical details on many of the Trustees mentioned in these memoirs can also be found in *ADB*.

Armstrong, Edmund La Touche (1864–1946), MA, LLB; first appointed 1881; Chief Librarian, 1896–1925. See introduction to 'Fifty years of the Public Library', pp. 6–9 of this issue; John Arnold, 'Library profile', *La Trobe Journal*, no. 72, Spring 2003, pp. 80–4 (available online at www3.slv.vic.gov.au/latrobejournal/issue/latrobe-72/t1-g-t9.html); and *ADB*.

Astley, Harold Selwyn (1909–2002), BA, LLB; first appointed 1926; Assistant, 1926; awarded free university place for public servants to study arts, 1932; later a solicitor. See obituary, *Herald Sun*, 12 Sep. 2002.

Battye, John Sykes (1871–1954), library Assistant, 1889–94. Later Chief Librarian at the Public Library of Western Australia. See *ADB*.

Baud, William Charles (1890–1945), BA; first appointed 1911; Assistant, 1912; Senior Assistant, 1926; Assistant Librarian, 1939; Chief Librarian, 1944–45. See appointment as Chief Librarian, *The Age*, 5 Dec. 1944, p. 2; obituary, *The Age*, 3 Oct. 1945, p. 6.

Boys, Robert Douglass (1866–1942), BA; first appointed 1883; Senior Assistant, 1900; Assistant Librarian, 1913; Chief Librarian, 1925–31; retired 1931. Author of *First Years at Port Phillip: preceded by a summary of historical events from 1768*, Melbourne: Robertson & Mullens, 1935.

Brazier, Amos William (1862–1929), MA; first appointed 1881; Assistant, 1889; Sub-Librarian, 1900; Assistant Librarian, 1913; retired 1922. Author of *Marcus Clarke: his work and genius*, Melbourne: Echo, 1902; *Libraries and Librarianship*, Melbourne: The Author, 1912; *The Terms and the Grammar of Creation: a new method*, Melbourne: The Author, 1919, and other works.

Bride, Thomas Francis (1849–1927), University of Melbourne, Doctor of Laws; University Assistant Librarian 1873–81. Appointed Chief Librarian of Melbourne Public Library in 1881. Set about improving the administration of the Library and appointing a more professional staff. He retired from the Library in 1895. See *ADB*.

Bryant, Frederick Stephen (1864–1944), first appointed 1887; Supervisor, 1906; Heidelberg City Councillor, 1914–35. See death notice, *Argus*, 15 Dec. 1944, p. 2.

Cannam, Duncan William Inkersole (1907–1943), first appointed 1927; Assistant, 1927; military service, 1942–43: Warrant Officer Class 2, 2/7 Independent Company, Australian Army, killed on active service in New Guinea in February 1943. See www.ww2roll.gov.au/Veteran. aspx?ServiceId=A&VeteranId=476683

Clarke, Marcus Andrew Hislop (1846–1881), Sub-Librarian, author and journalist. See entry in *ADB*.

Cooke, Thomas Fleming (1879–1955), BA; first appointed 1900; Assistant, 1909; Senior Assistant, 1919; Assistant Librarian, 1925; Chief Librarian, 1943–44; retired Nov. 1944. See *The Age*, 20 Oct. 1944, p. 2; C McCallum, 'The book of the PLV, 1932–1956', MS 8538, State Library of Victoria, p. 76; and death notice, *Argus*, 21 Sep. 1955, p. 13.

Crawford, William (b. 1891); first appointed 1913; Attendant, Ararat Lunatic Asylum, 1913; military service, 1914–17; Attendant, PLV, 1921; Library Attendant, 1934; Senior Library Attendant, 1940; retired 1952.

Croll, Robert Henderson (1869–1947), Library Assistant, 1886–91. Later public servant and author. See entry in *ADB*.

Photographer unknown, Staff of the Melbourne Public Library, on the Library steps, c. 1896–98, Pictures Collection, H13084

Back row includes: E La Touche Armstrong, RD Boys, Harvey, Weatherall, Quirk, FS Bryant, CFH Shellew, WJ Vogler, O'Malley, MH Irving, [unnamed], Atkinson; Front row includes: JM Kerr, RH Walcott, Barbey, Simpson, Mattham, DW Edwards, JE Shield, [unnamed], Dymond

Curtis, Robert (1829–94), Attendant 1860; later Library Assistant; Secretary to the Trustees and Accountant, 1873–86.

Dewar, Eric Neil (1894–1964), first appointed 1912; military service, 1916–19; Accountant and Assistant Secretary, 1936; Secretary and Accountant, PLV, National Gallery of Victoria and Museums, 1945; retired 1958. See *Report of the Trustees*, 1958, p. 3.

Dober, Thomas (1860–1931), first appointed 1885; Caretaker, 1906.

Dober, Thomas Leslie (1887–1954), first appointed 1907; Library Attendant, 1915; Senior Library Attendant, 1933; retired 1952.

Douglas, Una Jean, temporary Assistant, c. 1935–37.

Dowden, Michael Frank, (1859–1896), Chief Librarian, 1895–96. See *The Age*, 14 Feb. 1896, p. 4, and *Advocate* (Melbourne), 15 Feb. 1896, p. 10.

Dreiheller, Erica Annette Lucia (b. 1924), temporary Assistant, 1947; first appointed 1947; Assistant, 1947; left PLV before 1950. See *Argus*, 11 Dec. 1945, p. 2; *The Age*, 31 Aug. 1950, p. 5.

Dwyer, John Beynon (1904–1999), BA, LLB; first appointed 1925; Assistant, 1926; solicitor with Desmond Dunne, Harty & Dwyer; Mayor of Warrnambool, 1947–50; awarded OBE. See *Advocate*, 17 Sep. 1947, p. 4; and obituary *Law Institute Journal*, Feb. 2000, p. 54, www.austlii. edu.au/au/journals/LawIJV/2000/30.pdf

Edwards, David William (b. 1863), first appointed 1888; Attendant, 1889; Library Attendant, 1900; Senior Library Attendant, 1926.

Esson, Thomas Louis Buvelot (1878–1943), Library Assistant, later a noted poet and dramatist. See entry in *ADB*.

Evans, John Albert (1887–1968), first appointed 1907; Income Tax Department, –1926; Accountant and Assistant Secretary to PLV, 1926; Secretary to Police Department, 1943.

Feely, John Andrew (1902–1965), BSc; first appointed 1921; Assistant, 1927; Senior Assistant, 1939; Assistant Chief Librarian, 1950; Chief Librarian, 1960–65. Compiler of the *Argus Index: 1846–April 1859*, 5 vols (typescript, SLV with volume covering 1846–54 published by the Library Council of Victoria in 1976).

Foxcroft, Albert Broadbent (1884–1938), MA; first appointed 1902; Assistant, 1908; Senior Assistant, 1922; Assistant Librarian, 1933; died while employed at PLV. See Shane Carmody, 'A Life of Scholarship: AB Foxcroft at the Melbourne Public Library', *La Trobe Journal*, no. 79, Autumn 2007, latrobejournal.slv.vic.gov.au/ latrobejournal/issue/latrobe-79/t1-g-t8.html

Fraser, Isabella Agnes Mary (1881–1969), BA; first appointed 1908; Assistant, 1924; retired 1946. See Minutes of the Public Library Trustees, 8 Mar. 1946, p. 521.

Frazer, Eric Lindsay (1892–1965), BA, FLAA; first appointed 1910; Junior Assistant, 1911; transferred from State Audit Office to PLV, 1913; military service, 1915–19; transferred to Victorian Parliamentary Library, 1923; Librarian, Victorian Parliamentary Library, 1926–57; retired 1957. See Patrick Gregory, *Speaking Volumes: the Victorian Parliamentary Library, 1851–2001*, Melbourne: Victorian Parliamentary Library, 2001.

Gagliardi, Pasquale Ferdinando (1843–1898), Doctor of Laws, University of Pisa. Emigrated to New Zealand in 1876 where his brother was living, then moved to Victoria in 1877. In 1881, began working in the Public Library part time. Appointed the first Principal Librarian 1883. He twice declined the appointment of Chief Librarian, 1895 and 1896. See 'Biographical introduction', Ferdinando Gagliardi, *Australia: letters to the Gazetta d'Italia (May 1876–August 1880)*, ed. by Piero Genoveis, letters translated by Colin A McCormick, Melbourne: Italian Australian Institute Research Centre, La Trobe University, 2016 (letters first published in Italy in 1881).

Garrett, Phillip Vergilius Lake (1905–1985), first appointed 1925; Assistant, 1925; Senior Librarian, 1950. Appointed South Melbourne

City Librarian in 1949 but did not take up the position. See Margaret Beveridge, 'Books for country folk', *Weekly Times*, 17 Jan. 1945, p. 18; 'Council appoints new City Librarian', *Record* (Emerald Hill), 11 Jun. 1949, p. 3; Keith Dunstan, 'Researching in the Library', *La Trobe Journal*, no. 80, Spring 2007, pp. 20–1, latrobejournal.slv.vic.gov.au/latrobejournal/issue/latrobe-80/t1-g-t4.html

Hosken, Arthur (1865–1927), first appointed 1883; Assistant in 1889; Clerk, 1900–27. See obituary, *Australasian*, 9 Jul. 1927, p. 48.

Howard, John (b. 1863), MA; first appointed 1888; Junior Assistant, 1889; Assistant, 1900.

Howell, William (b. 1875); first appointed 1936; Binder, Government Printing Office, 1936.

Hutchinson, George Edwin (1871–1941), first appointed 1889; Junior Messenger, 1889; Library Attendant, 1900; Senior Library Attendant, 1929; retired 1932. See McCallum, 'The book of the PLV, 1932–1956', pp. 8–9.

Ingram, Ethel Frances (b. 1899), first appointed 1926; Shorthand Writer and Typist, 1926; Senior Shorthand Writer and Typist (Female), PLV, National Gallery of Victoria and Museums, 1949.

Kealy, Thomas Arthur (b. 1909), BA; first appointed 1926; Assistant, 1927; military service, 1942–45; Senior Librarian, 1950; Acting Chief Librarian, 1965–67.

Kirby, Frank Gordon (1885–1963), first appointed 1905; Assistant, 1914; teacher at Scotch College, 1920–55; author of *Libraries in Secondary Schools: a report on the libraries of secondary schools in Victoria …* Melbourne: Melbourne University Press, 1945.

Lodewyckx, Karel Axel (1910–1990), BA, FLAA; first appointed 1929; Assistant, 1929; military service, World War II; Australian War Memorial, 1944–46; PLV, 1946; resigned 1948; Deputy Librarian, University of Melbourne, 1948– ; Librarian, University of Melbourne, 1956–73; author of *The Funding of Wisdom: revelations of a library's quarter century*, Melbourne, Spectrum, 1982. See University of Melbourne *Calendar*, 1949, p. 484.

McCall, William (b. 1910), first appointed 1926; Clerk, Public Service Board, 1949.

McCallum, Colin Alexander (1895–1981), Chief Librarian, 1945–60. See introduction to 'Looking back – the PLV 1919–1960', pp. 66–8 of this issue.

McDonald, Arthur Leopold Gladstone (1898–1981), BA; first appointed 1924; Assistant, 1924; Deputy Librarian, University of Melbourne, 1927–48; military service, 1941–45; inaugural Librarian, Australian National University, 1948–60. See Enid Bishop, 'McDonald, Arthur Leopold Gladstone (1898–1981)', *ANU Reporter*, Feb. 1981, p. 4, and Obituaries Australia, National Centre of Biography, Australian National University, oa.anu.edu.au/obituary/mcdonald-arthur-leopold-gladstone-686/text687

Macfarlan, Graeme James Lennox (1921–1996), BA, ALAA; first appointed 1941; Assistant, 1941; military service, 1942–46; Technical Officer, FLSB, 1951; Deputy Librarian, University of Melbourne. Married MH Marsden, 1951. See *Argus*, 12 Jan. 1951, p. 7.

McGlade, Winnifreda Mary (b. 1909), first appointed 1927; Assistant, 1927; retired 1970. See photographs of her retirement function by LR Mills, 1970, H32950/1-13, SLV.

Mair, Ian Allan (1906–1993), BA; first appointed 1926, Assistant, 1926; lecturer at Swinburne Institute of Technology, writer, book and music reviewer for *Argus* (Melbourne), 1944–46 and *The Age* (Melbourne), 1949–1960s. See Ian Mair, 'To the Chief Librarian, Public Library, Museums and National Gallery of Victoria', *Argus*, 5 Jan. 1946, p. 10; and obituary, *Australian*, 3 Jan. 1994, p. 11.

Marsden, Mary Howard (1920–1994), BA; temporary Assistant, 1942; first appointed 1946; Assistant, 1946. Married GJL Macfarlan, 1951. See *Argus*, 12 Jan. 1951, p. 7.

Medley, Diana Mary (b. 1922), US Information Library until at least 1947; first appointed 1950; Shorthand Writer and Typist, 1950.

Mills, Leone Rosa (b. 1925), first appointed 1956; Photographer. See LR Mills, 'The life and times of a "working-class" girl in Australia, 1925–', 2013, typescript, MS 15235, SLV.

Morphett, William Stanley (b. 1887), first appointed 1921; NGV Attendant, 1922; NGV Senior Attendant, 1938; Supervisor and Caretaker, 1941.

Mossop, William Joseph (1875–1942), first appointed 1900; Attendant, 1910; Library Attendant, 1928; Senior Library Attendant, 1933; retired 1940. See McCallum, 'The book of the PLV, 1932–1956', pp. 54a–55; and obituaries, *Record* (Emerald Hill), 11 Jul. 1942, p. 2, and *Advocate* (Melbourne), 30 Jul. 1942, p. 21.

Newman, Harold Gordon (1906–1961), first appointed 1943; Binder, Government Printing Office, 1943.

O'Connor, Mary Ursula (1910–1987), BA, ALAA; first appointed 1927; Assistant, 1927; Senior Librarian (Female), 1950; Head Cataloguer, 1947–60; Principal, Library Training School, 1960–70; retired 1970. See MU O'Connor, 'State Library of Victoria, 1927–1965', c. 1981, MS 11116, SLV; and obituary by Jane La Scala and Barrett Reid, *InCite*, 4 Dec. 1987, p. 14, www5.austlii.edu.au/au/journals/inCiteALIA/1987/336.pdf

Oliphant, Ernest Henry Clark (1862–1936), Library Assistant (1884–88). Later a noted journalist and playwright. See entry in *ADB*.

Perry, Francis Jacob (1907–1965), BA; first appointed 1924; Assistant, 1925; City Librarian, South Melbourne, 1939–47; military service, World War II; inaugural Principal, Library

Photographer unknown, Staff of the Public Library of Victoria, c. 1931–32, Pictures Collection, H82.139/4

Training School, 1948; Librarian in charge of Lending Services, SLV, 1961; Librarian, Victorian Parliamentary Library, 1962–65. Author of *Librarianship as a Career*, Melbourne: Ford & Son Press, 1950. See obituary, *The Age*, 20 Mar. 1965, p. 5; and Gregory, *Speaking Volumes*. Married EB Whitelaw, 1937.

Phillipps, Arthur Edwin Henry (1860–1938), first appointed 1881; Clerk, Chief Secretary's Office, 1885; Clerk, PLV, 1898; Accountant, 1907; retired 1926.

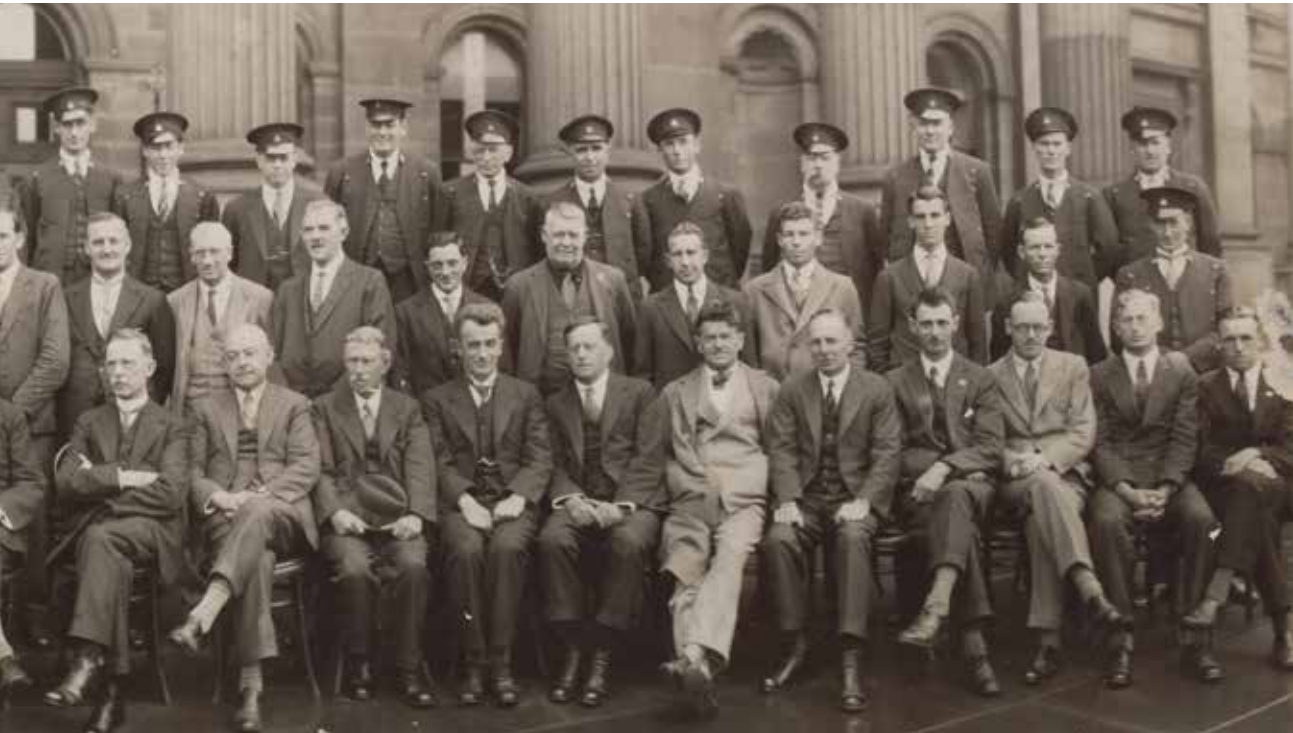**Pitt, Ernest Roland** (1877–1957), Chief Librarian, 1931–43. See entry in *ADB*.

Rennick, Robert Bruce (1865–1899). Library Assistant, later a lawyer. See 'Suicide of a solicitor', *Argus*, 20 May 1899, p. 9.

Russell, William Charles (b. 1885); first appointed 1926; Binder, Government Printing Office, 1926; Head Binder, GPO, 1941.

Ryan, Martin Benedict (1898–1981), BA; military service, 1917–19; first appointed 1924; Assistant, 1924; military service, World War II; Supervising Librarian, 1951; Assistant Chief Librarian, 1960; retired 1963.

Scott, Leigh (1888–1963), MA; first appointed 1906; Assistant, 1913; Acting Accountant, 1919–20; Librarian, University of Melbourne, 1926–53; see introduction, pp. 34–7 in this issue, to 'Mainly from memory'.

Shannon, James Alipius (1869–1940), first appointed 1886; National Gallery of Victoria Attendant, 1889; Library Attendant, 1900;

Senior Library Attendant, 1926; retired c. 1934. See obituary, *Argus*, 20 Apr. 1940, p. 5.

Sheffield, Henry (1810?–1908), Chief Librarian, 1873–76. See Armstrong, *The Book of the Public Library*, pp. 114–15.

Shellew, Charles Francis Henry (1865–1942), BA; first appointed 1890, Assistant, 1907; retired 1926. See *Argus*, 21 Jul. 1926, p. 21, and E La Touche Armstrong & Robert Douglass Boys, *The Book of the Public Library, Museums, and National Gallery of Victoria, 1906–31*, Melbourne: The Trustees, p. 64.

Shield, James Edwin (1872–1933), first appointed 1891; Library Attendant, 1900; Senior Library Attendant, 1929; retired 1932. See McCallum, 'The book of the PLV, 1932–1956', pp. 8–9; and death notice, *The Age*, 22 June 1933, p. 1.

Stewart, Alexander, Retired as Clerk/Accountant in 1884.

Stewart, Gordon (b. 1915), MC; first appointed 1934; Assistant, 1935; military service, World War II; Secretary, FLSB, 1947.

Street, Bernard (1881–1959), first appointed 1913; Attendant, 1915; Library Attendant, 1934; Senior Library Attendant, 1935.

Tulk, Augustus Henry (1810–1873), Chief Librarian, 1856–73. See John Arnold, 'Library profile', *La Trobe Journal*, no. 62, Spring 1998, pp. 54–6, latrobejournal.slv.vic.gov.au/latrobejournal/issue/latrobe-62/t1-g-t10.html; and entry in *ADB*.

Vogler, William John (1866–1919), MA; first appointed 1880; Senior Assistant (Senior Cataloguer), 1906–19. See Armstrong & Boys, *The Book of the Public Library*, p. 42.

Weir, William Paul (1897–1943), BCom; first appointed 1913; Clerk, Department of Labour, 1913; military service, 1916–19; Clerk, PLV, 1926–35; left PLV before 1937.

Whitelaw, Ethel Burdett (1910–1996), BA; first appointed 1926; Assistant, 1926. Married FJ Perry, 1937.

Williams, Neville H, temporary Junior Assistant, c. 1915–19.