

Editorial

THIS ISSUE of the *La Trobe Journal* contains a wealth of interesting reading.

In 2006 the State Library acquired at public auction a major goldfields diary, known as the 'Lazarus Diary'. It covers the time of the Eureka Stockade and the Library has proudly promoted and publicized the diary as one of its treasures.

But, in an inspired example of detective work, historian Clare Wright discovered that the diary was not in fact by Samuel Lazarus and then set about finding out who was its actual author. Her account of her discoveries, introduced by Shane Carmody, Director Development at the State Library, is detailed in 'Desperately Seeking Samuel: a diary lost and found'. Her article shows that a good historian must also be somewhat of a Doubting Thomas, always questioning supposed facts, even when they have appeared in print and been repeated many times.

The 'Lazarus Diary' article is followed by one by Michael Humphries giving the first ever survey of the career of George Hyde Pownall, a painter of cityscapes who began his career in London but moved to Australia just before the First World War. One of his paintings adorns the cover of this issue.

Pownall is as unknown as a painter as Frederick McCubbin is famous as one. Katherine Kovacic in 'A Goat and McCubbin in the State Library' discusses McCubbin's 1884 painting 'Melbourne Gaol in sunlight from the Public Library grounds' as well as the menace of urban goats in nineteenth-century Melbourne.

Musicologist Daniela Kaleva contributes an article on the *The Melbourne Centenary Music Book* published for Victoria's Centenary Celebrations in 1934 by the expatriate publisher and music patron, Louise Hanson-Dyer at her Paris based Editions de L'Oiseau Lyre. Her article is followed by one by Derham Groves, like Daniela, a previous contributor to the *La Trobe Journal*, on the individual designs done by his third year architecture students at the University of Melbourne for a 'Doll Theatre Project', based around Ray Lawler's Doll Trilogy, with its iconic third (but first written and first performed) play, 'Summer of the Seventeenth Doll'.

In 'The Art of Light' Bronwyn Hughes, editor of 'The Stained Glass Encyclopedia Project', provides an important survey of stained glass architecture in Victoria. Her article is followed by one by Colin Holden on the skilled lithographic printing of William Grant. The artists who drew the designs for the wonderful inter-war travel posters such as James Northfield, Percy Trompf and Gert Selheim are well known, but those of the lithographers who printed them are not. William Grant was one such skilled printer.

Morag Loh in 'Testimonies from White Australia' describes some of Chinese emigrants to Australia and their descendants whom she interviewed as part of an oral history project she conducted almost thirty years ago. The tapes of these interviews have recently been digitized by the State Library to make them more accessible.

Then there are two articles relating to those who participated in the golden

age of Antarctic exploration a century ago. One is on Robert Bage, a member of the Douglas Mawson led Australasian Antarctic Expedition, 1911-1914, who was later killed at Gallipoli ten days after the Anzac Day landing. A copy of Bage's Antarctic Diary has recently been acquired by the State Library and Chris Elmore, another previous contributor, has provided a sketch of Bage's life, his work on the Mawson led expedition and an overview of the diary. Extracts from it, edited by Chris, will be published in issue number 92 (December 2013) of the *La Trobe Journal*.

J. K. Davis was the Captain of the *Aurora* that took Mawson's men down to Antarctica and collected them at the end of their expedition. Anna Lucas discovered a diary of Davis' recounting a trip he took to Eden in southern New South Wales in 1912 and has edited the text for publication here.

Finally, this issue concludes with an account by Constant Mews and Anna Welch on how the recently rebound thirteenth-century *Codex Sancti Paschalis*, owned by the Franciscan Order of Friars Minor, Box Hill, Victoria and on permanent loan to the State Library, came to Australia in the late 1940s.

A wealth of reading awaits you . . .

John Arnold
Editor



Samuel Tongway, 1917. He served as a signaller in France (see article by Morag Loh, pp. 112-124).
Copy in Building A Country Archive, Picture Collection, State Library of Victoria