

# The La Trobe Journal

is published by the State Library of Victoria Foundation twice yearly in June and November. Formerly the *La Trobe Library Journal*, it was published from 1968 to 1997 by the Friends of the State Library (since amalgamated with the State Library of Victoria Foundation).

**Editor:** John Arnold (john.arnold@monash.edu)

**Volunteer copy editor:** Amy Hawley.

**Proof readers:** Suzette Chapple, Anne Colman, Ellie Dargaville, Michael Humphries, Joyce Sheridan, and Lurline Stuart.

**Administrative assistant:** Martine Botha.

**Editorial address:** Editor, the *La Trobe Journal*, State Library of Victoria Foundation, 328 Swanston Street, Melbourne, Victoria 3000.

**Contributions** are invited on scholarly topics and are subject to refereeing. Opinions expressed in the *La Trobe Journal* are those of the individual contributors and no responsibility is accepted for them by the State Library of Victoria Foundation.

**Copyright** of material published in the *La Trobe Journal* is vested in the author.

**Members** of the State Library of Victoria Foundation receive the *La Trobe Journal* free as part of their membership. Single copies may be purchased from the Readings Bookshop at the Library.

**Illustration acknowledgements:** The following institutions have kindly granted their permission for use of photographs/illustrations where they hold either the original and/or the copyright.

Athenaeum Library Archives, Melbourne: p. 81 (bottom).

Estate of Jessie Traill (via Viscopy): p. 151

National Library of Australia: p. 79, 163.

Public Record Office of Victoria: pp. 15, 16.

Royal Australasian College of Surgeons: p. 90 (left).

Royal Historical Society of Victoria: pp. 81 (top), 82.

State Library of New South Wales: pp. 167 (both), 171.

University of Melbourne Archives: pp. 7, 18 (top), 22, 23 (bottom), 44.

Unless otherwise acknowledged all other photographs/illustrations are from the collections of the State Library of Victoria and have either been downloaded from the Library's online catalogue or copied by the Imaging Studio at the Library.

**Cover illustration:** Elevated view of the Public Library of Victoria, including the domed reading room, from across Swanston Street, c. 1915. Albumen silver photograph. H3956.

## The domed reading room at the State Library of Victoria

Since its opening on 14 November 1913, the magnificent domed reading room (now known as the La Trobe Reading Room) has been the heart of this great institution. Originally commissioned for the Library's 50th anniversary, and envisaged as a crowning glory to the city's intellectual and artistic centre, the dome symbolised the making of a new world. Over the past century, it has inspired generations of writers, artists, researchers, students and visitors. More than a remarkable architectural accomplishment, it represents all that the Library has to offer the world: a vast collection, expert staff, a place to connect with the community, and a source of ideas, learning and pleasure.

Learn more at [dome100.com.au](http://dome100.com.au).

# The State Library of Victoria Foundation

was established in 1994 to raise funds to support the State Library of Victoria. It encourages and promotes private philanthropy and corporate sponsorship for State Library projects, including preservation of Victoria's cultural heritage, conservation of valuable collections, acquisitions of items of historical significance, and delivery of educational programs and research services to the community.

Anyone interested in the vital work of the Foundation can assist by becoming a Foundation member or donor.

**Member:** \$85 per year (GST included)

**Bookplate donor:** Upon payment of the \$85 membership fee, members are entitled to become Bookplate donors by making the following donations. All donations are tax deductible.

- **Lewin Bookplate** \$175 donation
- **Audubon Bookplate** \$500 donation
- **Gould Bookplate** \$1000 donation

In addition to member benefits, Bookplate donors are acknowledged by special bookplates in books selected from the Library's recent acquisitions.

## **Exclusive benefits**

Foundation members are an important part of the Library, enjoying exclusive access to the Foundation members' lounge and a calendar of special events.

Members also receive discounts at a number of hospitality and retail outlets including Mr Tulk Cafe, The Moat Cafe, Readings at the State Library, QV Melbourne, and Palace Cinemas.

For further information or to join the Foundation, telephone 03 8664 7280, email [foundation@slv.vic.gov.au](mailto:foundation@slv.vic.gov.au) or visit the State Library website: [slv.vic.gov.au](http://slv.vic.gov.au). Sign-up or renew online at [slv.vic.gov.au/foundation-member](http://slv.vic.gov.au/foundation-member).

**Director Foundation:** Ben Clark

**Foundation Council:** Christine Christian (Chair), David Evans, Doug Kefford AO, Jane Hansen, Michael Kay, David Mullaly, Richard Lourey, Maria Myers AO, John Wylie AM and Stephen Kerr.

# *The La Trobe Journal*

**No. 92**

**December 2013**

	<i>Editorial</i>	2
Miles Lewis	<i>Building the Dome: an illustrated account</i>	4
Harriet Edquist	<i>'An architecture to excite an interest': grand visions for Melbourne's public library</i>	52
Sue Reynolds	<i>Remembering Redmond Barry, 1813-2013: Melbourne memorials</i>	62
Dave Phoenix	<i>Every Hour, On the Hour, From Sun Up 'til Sun Down: William Brahe and the establishment of central Australia's first weather station during the Burke and Wills Expedition</i>	68
Anne Marsden	<i>Gentlemen Versus Players: public squabbling over the membership of the foundation committee of the Melbourne Mechanics' Institution</i>	80
James P. Lesh	<i>Land Boom Advertising: a socio-spatial mapping of the 1885 subdivision of Cremorne</i>	97
Rachel Solomon	<i>The Victorian Diaries of a Welsh Swagman (1869-1894)</i>	107
Dennis Bryans	<i>'A Tolerable Interpreter': Robert Bell and the Chinese on the Ballarat goldfields</i>	126
Colin Holden	<i>Melbourne Modern Versus Sydney Picturesque?: tales of two cities in print, 1891-1934</i>	144
Chris Elmore	<i>Recording an Illustrious Past: extracts from Robert Bage's Antarctic diary</i>	162
	<i>Endnotes</i>	180
	<i>Notes on Contributors</i>	199

ISSN: 1441-3760