

Historical Society of the Northern Territory

Patron: The Hon Austin Asche AC

NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER 2018

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HSNT Committee – President: Matthew James; Vice President: Bev Phelts;
Secretary: Janie Mason; Treasurer: Helen Spiers; others - Brian Reid; Alan Powell;
Judy Boland and Clayton Frederickson

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Every Friday until 28 September 2018- Curator Floor Talks: 'A Territory Story' exhibition at the NT Library

Join Library curators as they reveal how *A Territory Story* came to be. Discover collections that were drawn upon to create the exhibition and gain an insight into elements of the exhibition that especially resonate with our curators.

A Territory Story explores Northern Territory history through ten themes: *Larrakia Country, Courage, Tracks and Mapping, All Aboard, Territory Made, Home, Check it out!, Territorians, Darwin* and *Territory Classics*. A unique pictorial timeline complements the stories.

Floor talks take place every Friday at 10:30am during the Dry Season. No bookings required.

Friday 24 August - National Trust & Historical Society Talk at Burnett House, Burnett Place, Myilly Point – 5.30 for a 6pm start.

Speaker & Topic - Norm Cramp on “James McDonald: A Territorian of the Great War”.

James McDonald DSO, MM survived the Great War, became president of the Darwin RSL on a couple of occasions. He also served in World War Two and died penniless in a tin shed in Pine Creek.

Norm Cramp is the director of the Darwin Military Museum. He has resided in Darwin since 1974 and has authored many books on Territory history- the latest being *Worth Fighting For : Territory military service from the Great War to Vietnam*.

Join us under the verandah at Burnett House for a cool drink and nibbles at 5:30 pm before the talk.

Entry: \$2 members, \$5 non-members - \$5 food & drinks Telephone enquiries to Julie: 8946 6835 BH.

Members and guests are reminded that food and drink cannot be taken inside Burnett House

Wednesday 29 August – Dr Mickey Dewar Oration - 6pm - 8pm at the Charles Darwin University



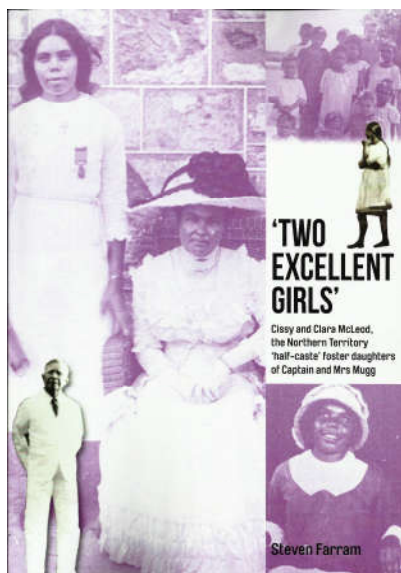
Ms Clare Martin, former Territory Chief Minister (2001–2007), will deliver the inaugural Dr Mickey Dewar Oration at Charles Darwin University. The event will be chaired by ABC Journalist Kristy O'Brien.

The Oration is in memory of the late Dr Dewar's contribution to the Northern Territory as a respected historian and former long-term member of the Archives Advisory Council.

The event will be held in the Mal Nairn Auditorium.
Drinks and canapes will be available.

The late Dr Mickey Dewar

Thursday 30 August – Launch of *Two Excellent Girls': Cissy and Clara McLeod, the Northern Territory 'half-caste' foster daughters of Captain and Mrs Mugg* by Steve Farram



The book concerns Cissy and Clara McLeod, two sisters of Aboriginal descent who lived in Darwin in the early decades of the twentieth century. In a society almost obsessed with notions of European superiority and racial purity, the McLeod sisters achieved a remarkable level of acceptance from the European community. In mid-1922, they left Darwin for Singapore and never lived in the Northern Territory again, but were remembered favourably by old Darwin residents for years after their departure. Cissy's and Clara's achievements were totally reliant on their own abilities, yet they would never have been given a chance if they had not had the support of their foster parents, Captain and Mrs Mugg. This couple are also considered in the book, as is their father, who lived for over twenty years in the remote town of Borroloola where the sisters were born. The ultimate fates of Cissy and Clara McLeod were tragic, but their lives in Darwin were marked with success. It was a notable achievement against considerable odds and remains worthy of recognition today.

The book will be launched by Dr Sam Wells at the NT Archives Centre on Kelsey Cr, Millner at 5.30 pm . The launch will be followed by a talk by the author and the book will be available for purchase for \$25 (cash only)

Bookings are required. For more information, contact Telephone 8999 6890 or email ntac@nt.gov.au

Wednesday 12 September - 5:30pm-7:00pm - The Eric Johnston Lecture at the NT Library

As the Northern Territory celebrates 40 years of self-government so does the Multicultural Council of the Northern Territory. Immigration lawyer and advocate Kevin Kadirgamar, 2018's NT Young Australian of the Year, will present this year's Eric Johnston Lecture. Entitled *Multiculturalism and forty years of self-government: Why cities need cultural diversity to thrive*, Kevin's lecture will reflect on the Northern Territory's multicultural past and his vision for its future. The Eric Johnston Lecture is an annual lecture hosted by the Northern Territory Library that addresses a theme relating to the Territory's culture, history and development. It was first delivered in 1986 by then Administrator Commodore Eric Johnston

Saturday 29 September – Patron's Lunch

The Historical Society will be holding a Patron's lunch at History House, 1/16 Charlton Court, Woolner. Lunch will be provided by Karen Sheldan Catering. Our speaker will be Dr Steve Farram who will launch *Alan Powell: Beyond the Far Country* along with guest editor, Dr Samantha Wells.

Cost is \$30 per person and this can be paid at the door (cash or cheque). RSVP by Friday 21 September to Janie Mason, email: janie.mason@cdu.edu.au or by phone: 89450691

Directions to History House - turn into Charlton Court where Middis Lighting (pink building) then turn at the first right. History House is at the end of the court.

Saturday 27 October - History Colloquium at the NT Library – An all day event

Note this event in your diary – A programme will be emailed closer to the date

Seeking Assistance for a PhD Research Project

Emily Gallagher is a PhD student at the Australian National University and her research is on a history of play and folklore in Australia.

Very little has been written about the history of children's play in Australia pre-1950 and she is hoping that her research will be able to help provide insight into the lives and experiences of children in Australia in this period. She is especially interested in billy-cart and bicycle play, doll play, war play (particularly the reenactment of colonial and frontier violence), fairy and monster folklore (e.g. giants, ghosts, wild animals and evil fairies), collecting cultures (including the collecting of bird eggs, postcards, marbles and cigarette cards) and the building of cubby houses or any play with fire or water.

She is especially interested in any materials about growing up in Australia in the 1901-1939 period and which are held in family collections (e.g. letters, toys, drawings, memoirs, treasured items, exercise books or childhood &c.). If there are people around who grew up in that period and are willing to speak with her, she would be happy to interview you over the phone or they can write to her.

Her contact details are -

Emily Gallagher, PhD Candidate of the School of History, Editor, ANU Historical Journal II, College of Arts and Social Sciences Coombs Building (9) Australian National University Canberra ACT 2601 Email: emily.gallagher@anu.edu.au Phone: 0431743066.



The Family History Place



LIBRARY HOURS

Monday and Tuesday 9.30am to 5.15pm

Saturday 1.00pm to 5.30pm

ADDRESS

Unit 4, 84 Smith Street, Darwin NT

Opposite the Chinatown Carpark

The Genealogical Society of the Northern Territory Incorporated provides members and visitors with an extensive range of research aides to assist finding families past and present both in Australia and overseas. For example, Books, CDs, Microfiche, Microfilm, Diaries etc. Visitors are welcome to use the library for \$20 per visit. Membership Single \$48, Pensioner and Interstate Memberships \$33.

Volunteers are very happy to show you how to research and record your family history.

Contact Secretary 0412 018 015

The Australasian Mining History Association

The Australasian Mining History Association is a not for profit organisation formed in 1995 to foster the exchange of information about our extensive and fascinating mining past. Membership is open to anyone who has an interest in mining history and its various related aspects. Currently the AMHA has 210 members, who meet regularly at the annual Australasian Mining History Conference, generally in an historic or current mining centre, complete with field trips. The very successful 2017 conference was held in Traralgon, Victoria and other conferences have been held in most of Australia's well known mining districts and in New Zealand. The Association has also held joint meetings with other organisations, including the International Mining History Association and the Australian Historical Association. The AMHA publishes the Journal of Australasian Mining History and a quarterly newsletter. Membership rates are very reasonable at \$35 p.a., including the Journal.

2018 Conference will be at Cromwell, Otago region, South Island of New Zealand 7-13 October.

For details see Website: <http://www.mininghistory.asn.au/next-conference/>



**AUSTRALASIAN
MINING
HISTORY
ASSOCIATION**

Are you interested in the history of: mining, mining engineering, metallurgy, mineral economics, mineral deposits or mining heritage? Why not join the

Australasian Mining History Association.

See our website: <http://www.mininghistory.asn.au/>

Special offer to new members who join before the end of 2018 of free digital access to the 2017 issue of the Journal of Australasian Mining History as well as the upcoming 2018 issue.

Contact: Mel Davies,

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