



HISTORY WEST

PUBLISHED BY THE ROYAL WESTERN AUSTRALIAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC.

January-February 2016

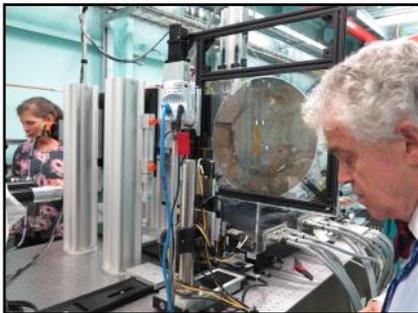
GENERAL MEETING

The next meeting at Stirling House is on Wednesday 17 February at 6pm.

Dr Ian MacLeod will present a paper entitled

De Vlamingh Plate: A tale of divergent sources of metals and historical engagement with explorers.

Refreshments available from 5.30pm; Bookshop open until 6pm



The de Vlamingh plate is one of Australia's oldest records of European contact. It was left by the Dutch commander Willem De Vlamingh on Dirk Hartog Island in 1697 to replace the Hartog plate. It was fashioned from a used shipboard utensil on board the *Geelvinck* and was very extensively corroded and highly fragile when it came into the possession of the Western Australian Museum.

A special mount was fabricated to support the plate vertically to enable close accurate scanning of the surface by the sophisticated X-Ray Fluorescence Beam line facility at the Australian Synchrotron in Melbourne.

The mapping of the individual concentrations of the elements present in the plate showed corrosion caused by the initial use of iron ship planking nails by de Vlamingh and the use of arsenical bronze sheathing tacks by Hamelin. Flowing iron corrosion products have etched the movement of the supporting post through three steps to the point of collapse. An embedded sand grain showed how the plate had fallen text down and cyclonic rains had caused the encapsulation of the grain into the corroded rear of the plate. Composition of the plate showed it to be normal 17th century pewter with the lead likely to have come from Derbyshire and the tin from Cornwall. Detailed surface analysis showed that the text is covered with chloride and sulphate salts, rendering it likely to suffer from corrosion which is why it is now resting on its custom-made mount in an argon atmosphere at the Shipwreck Museum in Fremantle.

Ian Donald MacLeod joined the WA Museum in 1978 and has written many book chapters on materials conservation and corrosion processes, publishing almost 200 papers on decay mechanisms and new treatment methods to preserve cultural materials. He has a Ph D in electrochemistry and a D Sc in Materials Conservation from the University of Melbourne. Ian is a fellow of the Royal Australian Chemical Institute (FRACI), the Australian Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering (FTSE), the Royal Society of Chemistry (FRSC) and the International Institute for the Conservation and Restoration of Historic and Artistic Works (FIIC). He is also a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland (FSA Scot).



Mystery Photo

This photograph of a young boy was taken at Perth studio of Bardwell Clarke. Does anyone recognise him?

Notification of Special General Meeting

To be held on Wednesday 16 March 2016 at 5.00 pm
at Stirling House, 49 Broadway, Nedlands, WA 6009
Proposal to amend the Constitution
See flyer in this issue for details



Government of Western Australia
Department of Culture and the Arts



At its meeting held on 12 November items of business included the following where Council

welcomed new members: – Australian Lebanese Historical Society (NSW) Affiliated Society, Lin Bowers-Ingram, Alison Houghton and Vivienne Stewart.

- noted with pleasure that volunteer hours for November totalled 1115;
- ratified the Society's updated Disaster Preparedness Plan;
- received notification from Duncan Ord, Director General Department of Culture and the Arts, at a meeting attended by the President and the Chair of Council that the Society's application for administrative support funding under the DCA's Organisations Investment Program 2016-19 was unsuccessful but that new connections with collection organisations will be developed at a DCA-run workshop with Museums Australia WA, WA Museum, State Library of WA early in the new year, and was pleased that, while this is being transitioned, the current funding levels for 2016 will remain;
- expressed its gratitude and thanks to President Lorraine Tholet and all RWAHS Auxiliary members for their donation of \$2954 towards the 2016 Exhibition. Lorraine and her committee were congratulated for a successful annual *History in the City* program;
- appreciated the Library's contribution of \$1000 from the *RWAHS Museum and Library Fund* towards the 2016 exhibition;
- recognised the Hon. Artist in Residence, Wendy Lugg, for her significant contribution in 2016, notably in relation to the *Beyond the Battlefields* exhibition, the historic Red Cross flag fund-raising project and the great support she has provided to Museum Convenor Val Hutch and her Committee;
- thanked the Assistant Administrative Officer, Lesley Burnett, for the successful *Booked in for a Cuppa* series, including the most recent event held on 3 December;
- endorsed the 2016 program content for publication in the Syllabus 2016 (copy enclosed with this newsletter);
- noted the submission of an application to the Department of Social Services, Australia Volunteer Grants program for display equipment, stands, portable museum display stand and laminator for use by the Museum and Community Exhibition teams.

Lennie McCall

History in the City

Brideships of Western Australia was the subject of our December talk given by Tricia Fairweather and Leonie Hayes. Females were in short supply in the early settlement. It seemed that the young women were a needed commodity for the new settlement.

Notices appeared mainly in British and Irish newspapers offering passage to respectable, healthy single women with good morals who were prepared to settle in the new colony. The women had to sign an agreement and promise to adhere to the shipboard rules for the voyage out. They had to obey the matron, go to bed and get up at stipulated times and not consort with the males on board. They were locked in their quarters at night, which resulted in tragedy when two of the ships caught alight. On one occasion the death toll was 368.

It was interesting to learn that, between 1886-1901, 87% of the female assisted immigrants were from England and Wales, 10% from Ireland and 3% from Scotland. Less than 0.5% came from other countries. After settling in WA, some of the women encouraged their sisters to also sign to come to the new colony.

History in the City commences its 2016 programme on Wednesday 2 March with a talk by David Brown on The Perth Tramway: beginnings to 1914.

Lorraine Tholet

Emergency Costume Activity

Just prior to Christmas the costume collection was given immediate priority attention after the discovery of water, caused by damaged roof tiles, and pest damage in the storeroom. The museum team of Val Hutch and Wendy Lugg together with a team from the WA Museum and the Embroiderers' Guild undertook an intensive week of unpacking, checking and repacking costume boxes. This work still continues in the Meeting Room as over 200 boxes have to be checked. It is a major project that has to be completed by our first General Meeting in February.

Our sincere thanks to all the volunteers but particularly Wendy and Ian Lugg whose normal lives are on hold until this work is finished. However, they have been delighted to view the collection and there has been the opportunity to photograph many items. This unfortunate occurrence underlines our need for improved storage that meets national standards. At the moment boxes are stacked up to the ceiling making regular inspections almost impossible.

The Society is most appreciative of the goodwill of UWA's Property Manager in providing nearby temporary accommodation for our non-museum furniture and equipment in order to give us additional space to better manage the emergency project on our premises.

The planned new building for the Society is a necessity for the care, preservation and presentation of our historical collections.

Sally Anne Hasluck, President

Museum News

Detective work finds the answer

In *History West's* September 2014 issue, we pictured two cross-sections of trees each approximately 30-40 cm in diameter and about 6-7 cm thick, which had no identification. One was a piece of Kimberley Cypress Pine cut on 3 May 1911 and in tiny text were the words 'W Howitt art worker'. Its identity was subsequently reported in the October 2014 issue.

The other piece had no wording at all, but had a metal handle attached to the edge.



This second piece remained a mystery until I recently found an old card entry which read: 'Section of Norfolk Is Pine tree planted in King's Park by Lord Forrest in 1895. Cut down 1947. Donor: Mr Watson of Kings Park Board following ... [no further writing]'.

I contacted Professor Kenneally at UWA who replied: 'having looked at the bark of some mature Norfolk Island Pines, advise the similarity and confirm that the cross-section could well be the same species'.

Then the Director of Horticulture and Conservation at Kings Park's Botanic Gardens and Parks Authority, Lesley Hammersley, reported that a search of the archives revealed that:

the cross section is from a Norfolk Island Pine tree that was planted by John Forrest, who was the current State Premier, in 1895 to celebrate the opening of what was, at the time, Perth Park. The tree was planted to signify the desire to mix exotic, foreign plants with the existing bushland trees in a parkland setting. In 1947 ... the Pine had been struck by lightning and was dying and would, regrettably, have to be removed. The timber from the tree was planed and used inside the two lodges within the Kings Park and Botanic Garden boundaries, and some was offered to organisations which may appreciate the significance of the wood. The tree was replaced with a new one in the same year.

So we can say – 'Mystery solved'!

Val Hutch, Convenor Museum

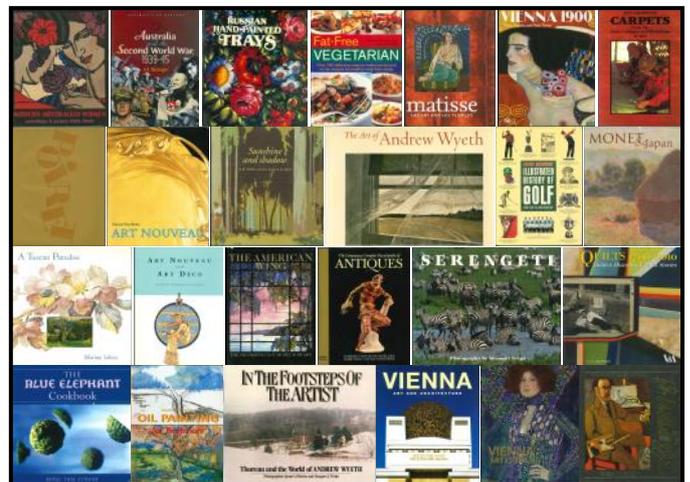
A top hat at a coronation

In August last year, *History West* contained a most interesting account by Jo Pearson of a top hat, recently donated to the Museum, which belonged to J. Thomas Peet, who established Peet & Co. Ltd Estate Agents and Financiers in Perth in 1895. J. Thos Peet was one of our early and regular donors and our old registers record a variety of items he donated to the Library in the 1930s and 1940s.



Family members have mentioned that he wore the top hat to attend the coronation of King George V and Queen Mary and we have this framed photograph of the Coronation Parade in London on 26 June 1911. His son, Cyril Peet, who donated the photograph, has marked where Thomas and his wife Mabel were standing in the crowd.

Val Hutch



Donations Welcome

Second-hand Book Sale Sat 2 & Sun 3 April

A varied and rich selection of popular and out of print books has been kindly donated and stored for sorting into categories for the sale. The volunteer team commenced its regular 'book sorts' in January and is keen to receive further donations - any subject, fiction, junior titles, LP records, DVDs would be welcomed.

Deliveries can be made to the Society at 49 Broadway between 9:30 – 5:00pm or call the office on 9386 3841 for a pick-up and we will help you.

A happy evening!

Marie Louise and David Wordsworth again generously made their garden available for the Christmas party. Our thanks to them both. A beautiful evening enticed approximately 100 members and guests to wind up a busy year and enjoy some Christmas cheer. And it was an additional pleasure to make welcome the current president of the Federation of Australian Historical Societies, Don Garden, and former president, Ruth Kerr.

Particular thanks to Ally Drake-Brockman who worked hard to make the evening a success. She organised a very successful raffle, raising \$1014 for the Society. Congratulations to the raffle winners – Rob Pickard, James Henderson, Glenda Bye, Sang Hee Bridge, Mary O’Hara and Clem Mulcahy.

Please note the following businesses that contributed in -kind to the raffle. They deserve our support!

Claremont – Carla Page Beauty Salon; Friendlies Pharmacy, Bayview Terrace; Liza and Katherine, Scout Home and Soul, 18 Princess Rd.

Cottesloe – Suswar, Deanne, 11 Station Street.

Swanbourne (Claremont Crescent) – Mike and Amanda, Merchants of Swanbourne; Tony, Swanbourne Post Office; Jeremy’s Exclusive Butchery and Kitchen; Steve, Swanbourne IGA; Swanbourne Cellars; Dawsons Nursery; Bookcaffe, Claremont Cres.



Ian and Wendy Lugg



L-R: Clem Mulcahy, Steve Errington, Mike Taylor, David Wordsworth.



L-R seated: Lynne Nicholson, Barbara Evans.



L-R: Lenore Layman, Ian Berryman, Patrick Cornish.



Lennie McCall and Prof Don Garden



L-R: Marie-Louise Wordsworth, Lennie McCall, Prof. Don Garden Sally Anne Hasluck.

Affiliates News

Congratulations to **Camamah Historical Society and Museum**, winner of the 2015 WA Heritage Award for contribution by a community-based organisation to the cause of heritage. The judges noted that the Society has attracted 7,000 volunteers to its heritage work. 'In effect, the Society has swapped its scissors, newspaper cuttings and dusty index cards for an eye-catching and user-friendly online Virtual Museum'. These online initiatives are a model for us all!

And congratulations also to the **Historical Society of Cockburn** which received a 'highly recommended' award in the same category. The judges paid tribute to the Society's high standards, and the way members work with their local government and community to promote heritage. Volunteers hold regular talks for local groups as well as tours for organisations, care homes, visitors, tourists and schoolchildren. 'The Historical Society of Cockburn is an inspiration to other societies, particularly their work engaging with young people'.

Busselton Historical Society reports that Busselton Library's Archives section has embarked on mapping and photographing the headstones at the Pioneer Cemetery. We all benefit when the results of such painstaking work at each local cemetery appears online and the research record is enlarged for all users. Best wishes for the progress of this excellent initiative!

Denmark Historical Society is keen to promote the Elleker-Denmark-Nornalup Rail Trail. The old rail track has been adapted for walkers, cyclists and equestrians, and a start has been made on improved signage to tell the history of places on the trail. A second edition of Ross McGuinness' book *Elleker-Denmark-Nornalup: the railway extended west but never met...* is also now available. For those who plan to holiday in the Albany-Denmark district, the trail sounds like a pleasant excursion.

Fremantle History Society reports on a splendid day trip late last year to Garden Island and Point Peron. For one member of the group who holidayed on the island as a child, the visit triggered happy memories which she shared. Archeologist Shane Burke guided them around Stirling's first settlement sites and there was also a tour of the naval base itself and a visit to the museum. A visit to the Point Peron Lookout and gun emplacement sites completed a full and obviously satisfying day!

Kalamunda & Districts Historical Society draws our attention to the legacy of former local resident, botanical watercolourist Edgar Dell (1901-2008), who illustrated wildflowers for the government botanist C.A. Gardner and whose work was extensively published by West Australian newspapers both in its newspapers and in book form. He lived to 106 and made an enormous contribution to Western Australia.

Maylands Historical & Peninsula Association at its 2015 AGM awarded a Life Membership in recognition of the good service of longtime member Mrs Maude Simmons. The Association is advertising for sale a book written by member Bob Corby titled *Soldiers of the*

Maylands Cenotaph WWI 1914-1918 which provides information about these men to give them individual identities.

Rockingham District Historical Society reports the success of 'Can You Help?' in the *West Australian* for information on *Corry Lynne*, Rockingham Rd, Kwinana. Recollections and memorabilia from several respondents have since told of a very popular guesthouse which opened in 1945. One man remembered as a boy enjoying the homemade cakes. Others told of the guesthouse's attraction for holidaying farming families, honeymooners, beach-party goers and many local social get-togethers.

The **WA Police Historical Society** was part of a combined effort which has resulted in the erection at Miller's Find (10km southwest of Kalgoorlie/Boulder) of a memorial to Inspector Walsh and Sergeant Pitman of the Gold Stealing Staff who were murdered there in April 1926. The original plaque commemorating the men had been stolen.

Mandurah Local History Photographic Competition 2016

Enter this competition by simply going through your photographs for those over 30 years old taken in Mandurah which reveal life in the past.

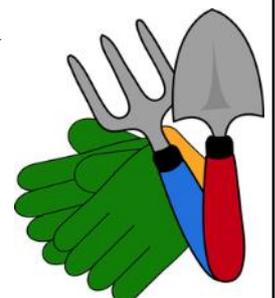
For an entry form, contact the Mandurah Community Museum on 9550 3680. Entries Close: Friday 19 February 2016.

RWAHS members are invited to the **Friends of Battye Library** meeting on Tuesday 8 March 2016 at 5.30pm in the Great Southern Room, 4th floor, State Library of WA, to hear former ABC broadcaster, Bill Bunbury, speak about 'The warmth, wit and wisdom of Geoffrey Bolton'. For more information, contact Jennie Carter on 9279 8777.

Mary Anne Taylor Travel Box project, Irish special Interest Group, WAGS.

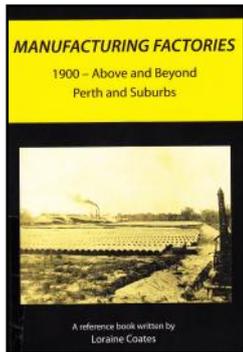
Mary Anne Taylor was born in 1835 in Galway, arrived in WA in 1852 and died at York in 1926. If you are interested in joining a group to research the items in her travel box, contact irish@wags.org.au

Can you help half a day a month with raking up leaves and trimming greenery? Please contact the office on 9386 3841 if you are interested. Join our friendly team of Volunteers and keep the Society looking good.



Shelf Help

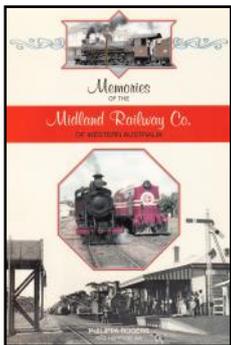
Loraine Coates, *Manufacturing factories; 1900 - above and beyond, Perth and suburbs*, Hesperian Press, Perth, 2015. SP \$45 MP \$43. In Library.



If you are searching for information on any Perth manufacturing works at the end of the 19th century, then this is the reference book for you. Information has been collated for 1900 when the colony was benefitting from the gold boom and population explosion. Construction, transport and engineering works were

numerous as, of course, were breweries. Light manufacturing products of all kinds were produced. Each industry grouping is listed alphabetically, making companies easy to find. Images, mostly from advertising materials, are scattered throughout. This is a well-presented and attractive publication, a credit to Hesperian Press.

Philippa Rogers, *Memories of the Midland Railway Co. of Western Australia*. Rail Heritage WA, Perth, 2014. SP \$20 MP \$19. In Library.



With many photographs and reminiscences, this book is an interesting and attractive introduction to the story of the private land grant railway which ran from Midland to Walkaway for seventy years, operating as a general carrier. You will learn of the activities of Edward Keane, the work experience of railworkers, family lives and the

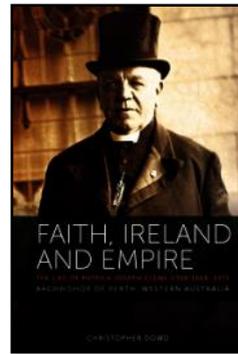
railway stations along the line. For many, this was a 'family railway', remembered with affection. The Rail Heritage Society has done a fine job, assisted by Andrew Bowman and the Carnamah Historical Society.

Book Reviews

Christopher Dowd, *Faith, Ireland and Empire: The life of Patrick Joseph Clune CSsR 1864-1935, Archbishop of Perth, Western Australia*, St Paul's Publications, Strathfield, 2014, 416 pp. SP \$40 MP \$38.

Reviewer: Geraldine Byrne

We may have thought there would be few surprises in a biography of Archbishop Clune but this book makes absorbing reading. Born in Ireland in 1864, Clune was ordained a priest on 24 June 1886 and was sent to New South Wales as a teacher. He joined the Redemptorist Order and, after serving in eastern Australia and New Zealand, was placed in charge of Western Australia's Redemptorist Monastery in North Perth.



Appointed Auxiliary Bishop of Perth to Bishop Gibney in 1910, Clune found that the diocese's finances needed extensive tidying up as the banks were about to foreclose. In the process, the resignation of the ageing Bishop Gibney became unavoidable. Clune was appointed as his successor and, on his first visit to Rome in 1913, Pope Pius X elevated him to Archbishop.

Pope Pius X elevated him to Archbishop.

During the 1914-1918 War, Clune was a committed supporter of the Allied cause. He was appointed Lieutenant Colonel in 1916 with responsibility for the welfare and spiritual comfort of the Australian Catholic armed forces in Europe. He supported the two unsuccessful referenda to introduce conscription to Australia. In this, he contrasted with Archbishop Mannix of Melbourne who was a fiery opponent, largely because of his Irish nationalist views.

One consequence of the War was to cement a lasting friendship between Clune and the Anglican Archbishop of Perth, Charles Riley, who also served as Chaplain General to the Australian forces. Friendship was enhanced when both archbishops were returning to Australia on separate ships. Riley's ship was torpedoed near Egypt and he escaped with little more than the clothes he was wearing. When both arrived in Cairo, it was rumored that Clune took him shopping, and helped to stock his wardrobe.

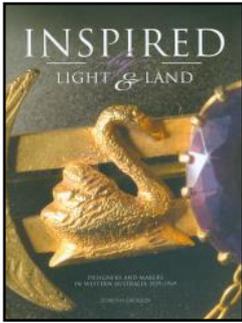
Meanwhile the Irish Troubles were escalating into a full-scale conflict between the Irish rebels and British regular and irregular armed forces. The British Prime Minister Lloyd George asked Clune to undertake a secret mission to Ireland to reconcile the two sides. Dowd's biography gives a fascinating account of Clune's activities on this mission. Although he was not immediately successful there are good grounds for thinking that his work helped to prepare the way for the treaty eventually negotiated in December 1921.

Clune resumed the life of a senior prelate in Australia, nationally respected and influential. Whereas before 1914 he had ruffled the feathers of many clergy and parishioners by insisting on stringent economies and diverting all funds to reducing the large debt left by Gibney, he was able in the 1920s to encourage a more generous attitude towards building. In particular, the planning and construction of a long-awaited new cathedral in Perth was initiated, although not without problems as the 1930s Depression approached. Eventually the new structure was integrated with a portion of the old church. After some years of failing health, Clune died in May 1935. His funeral procession through the streets of Perth was the largest until that time. It has taken eighty years for a biography to do justice to Archbishop Clune's life and work, but the

wait has been worthwhile. It is fitting that this book should appear shortly after the remains of Archbishop Clune were transferred from Karrakatta to join the other bishops and archbishops of Perth in the vault at St Mary's Cathedral.

Dorothy Erickson, *Inspired by Light & Land: Designers and Makers in Western Australia 1829 - 1969*, Western Australian Museum, Welshpool, 2015, Illustrated edition. 490pp. SP \$90 MP \$85.

Reviewer: Patrick Cornish



We in this giant State are accustomed to vast distances, wide sweeps of human endeavour: the intimidating scale of the Canning Stock Route, once traversed with much sweat, perhaps sums this up. But what about the other end of the human spectrum: the intricate art designed and fashioned by the

practised eye and nimble hand? This is just as important a part of the landscape.

Dorothy Erickson, an accomplished artist-jeweller, has done us all a favour by throwing light on the exquisite 'portable heritage', as her new book describes it. Subtitled: *Designers and Makers in Western Australia 1829-1969*, this is a fine example of 'show and tell'. Erickson shows, through hundreds of photographs of craft and art; and tells, through offering plenty of information of how our part of the world developed, aesthetically, since establishment of the Swan River Colony.

I applaud particularly the inclusion of a proper chronology. The West Australian Society of Arts, for example, was founded in 1896, we learn, by members of the Wilgie Club. Erickson, ever thorough, explains that this was a group of sketchers.

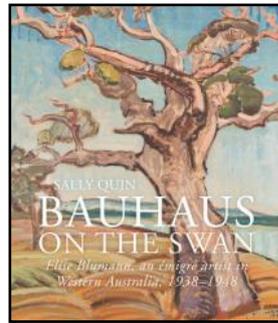
That year, five years before WA joined the other antipodean colonies to form the nation of Australia, was also notable for the arrival from England of a man whose expertise, both as maker and teacher to would-be makers, would be such a boon to his adopted home. James Walter Robert Linton, son of an artist knighted by Queen Victoria, was be such a stellar performer that his name endured in an institute, school and several artistic descendants.

The Linton legacy became apparent to me while writing about his great friend and admirer, artist Betsey Currie, and her brother, Herbert Kitchener 'Kitch' Currie. She took first his inspiration and secondly his name. It was a true relationship of art and heart. Kitch learned to produce beautiful silver work.

Erickson's handsome book is a gem of elaboration on excellence.

Sally Quin, *Bauhaus on the Swan: Elise Blumann, an émigré artist in Western Australia, 1938-1948*, UWA Publishing, Crawley, 2015. vii + 150 pp. Illustrations. SP \$55 MP \$53.

Reviewer: Dorothy Erickson



This generously illustrated book released for the exhibition 'Elise Blumann: An émigré artist in Western Australia, 1938-1948' at the Lawrence Wilson Gallery is one for the *cognoscenti*. It follows smaller studies by others, including those to accompany an exhibition at

the Art Gallery of Western Australia, 'Elise Blumann Paintings & Drawings 1918-1984', and a biography by Carolyn Polizzotto, *Approaching Elise* (1988).

Blumann is an enigma, hard to place in the general narrative of Western Australian art for, despite being a vocal advocate for the arts, when she first arrived she did not mix with the *avant-garde*, preferring cultured friends and patrons. When a new generation of artists emerged, centred on David Foulkes Taylor's exhibition spaces and the Skinner Galleries, she did not engage.

Quin describes Blumann's early life, influences, general art theories and movements of the 1920s and 1930s in great detail while disabusing us of some information published earlier. Blumann was biographically inventive to project the image she desired. Quin had to research deeply to find an approximate truth. She engages with Blumann's major dilemma, one that troubled her all her life and influenced her artistic practice: how to 'find a balance between a chaperoned society lady and the intellectual woman'. Quin deals lightly with Blumann's other problem, that of displacement, stating that 'This study does not attempt to describe the intangibles of personal loss, but rather focuses on Blumann's significant artistic achievements from her arrival in Perth until leaving for Germany in 1949'. Sadly she did not include Blumann's later exhibitions or draw conclusions concerning the influence she may have had on artists such as Howard Taylor and Guy Grey-Smith, hinted at by the inclusion of paintings by these men.

I must quibble with the title which draws a long bow to link the artist with the Bauhaus. Elise was not a student at the Staatliches Bauhaus in Weimar, Dessau or Berlin although she probably saw exhibitions by staff associated with the Bauhaus, that went on to unite art and industrial design in one of the most influential of modernist art schools. The Bauhaus connection belongs to David Foulkes Taylor, taught by Bauhaus lecturer Ludwig Hirschfeld-Mack, and to those who were schooled at WAIT under British teachers influenced by Gropius.

Blumann's own history, ambitions and expressive painting practice instead were founded on the ideas of the late Secessionists, remnants of Jugendstil and on admiration for the ideas of artists such as Matisse, van Gogh, Chagall and Kandinsky seen in galleries. As Quin herself states: 'Blumann established in broad terms the kind of artist she wished to become, not adhering to the precepts of any artistic movement but valuing art which expressed the inner vision of the artist'. In Hamburg she studied with masters formerly associated with the Viennese Werkstatte. 'The Wiener Werkstatte on Swan' perhaps?

The title aside, Quin has produced a very useful reference book. She discusses and dissects with forensic elegance each of the paintings illustrated until Blumann's departure for Europe in 1949. The scholarship is impressive although this might be problematic for a general reader given the numerous diversions to provide background for those not versed in German history, twentieth century art history, Perth society or the fitness and body culture that pervaded the world in the 1930s. Students of twentieth century Western Australian art history will find this a useful volume to have on their bookshelves, shedding as it does a well-researched light on a rather individual figure in Western Australian art practice.

*Many members will remember **Chris Coggin** as the former State Archivist. In retirement he has turned his hand to writing historical fiction that is well informed by surviving historical records. With a life divided between Africa and Australia, Chris is excellently placed to tackle Thomas Baines' story. If you read e-books, then this book might interest you.*

The Empire Sketcher, an e-book novel by Chris Coggin

Thomas Baines, explorer and artist, has been named by some as the first real outback artist in Australia. He is better known as the adventurer who accompanied Augustus Charles Gregory on the successful North Australian Expedition of 1855-56, and for an incredible voyage in a small dingy across the Arafura Sea to support Gregory at the Albert River on the Gulf of Carpentaria. But nothing had prepared him for his ultimate test: an expedition into the heart of Africa with the popular hero David Livingstone. This is the story, based on his own diaries and other original records, of Thomas Baines, of his battle with Livingstone and of the lost love that haunted him all his life.

The novel is available only as an e-book. Please use this link from which to download it.

<https://www.smashwords.com/books/view/412682>

Administrative Officer : Lynn O'Hara
Assistant Admin Officer : Lesley Burnett
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