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AUTHOR DETAILS AND ABSTRACTS OF ARTICLES

PETER BELL: *Copper Triangle's Spanish Legacy: Leaching the Waste Dumps at Moonta Mines 1901-1944.*

Peter Bell is an Adelaide-based consulting historian with a particular interest in mining history. His interest in the Moonta cementation plant began when he was on the staff of the South Australian Heritage Branch while the site was being developed for public interpretation.

Moonta Mines was the site of Australia's first successful acid leaching plant, which extracted nearly 20,000 tons of copper from the mine's waste dumps, contributing close to 6% of the total output of the Moonta and Wallaroo mines complex. Intended in 1900 to operate for a decade, the plant ran for over forty years, not closing until the Second World War. Its highly successful technology was based on practice at Rio Tinto in Spain, recommended by John Stewart MacArthur and brought to Moonta by the enigmatic Antonio Delgado, one of many virtually unknown international contributors to the technological complexity of the Australian mining industry.

DAVID BRANAGAN: *Australian Geochemical Mineral Exploration: It all began at Moonta through V.P. Sokoloff.*

David Branagan is an Honorary Research Associate, School of Geosciences, University of Sydney, where he taught for thirty years. His biography of Edgeworth David was one of four works short-listed for the first Prime Minister's Prize for Australian History awarded in July. He continues research on aspects of Australasian geology and mining.

Vladimir Petrovich (Pete) Sokoloff (1904 - 1995) carried out the first mineral exploration using geochemical methods at Moonta in 1948, through the encouragement of (Sir) Maurice Mawby and others of the Zinc Corporation and with the support of the South Australian Department of Mines. While technically successful no economic ore body was located. Nevertheless the method became widely applied in Australia and continues to be used in mineral exploration today.

JIM ENEVER: *'Another Broken Hill': The Mount Deddick Silver-Lead Field.*

Jim Enever is a retired mining engineer with interest in the colorful history of Victorian mining. Jim has published several papers on various aspects of Victorian mining.

The Mount Deddick mineral field in East Gippsland, Victoria was discovered in 1896. Soon it was being promoted as 'another Broken Hill', promising riches to help the Victorian economy recover after the crash of the early 1890s. The relatively large size of the field, coupled with the timing, meant that it would inevitably attract the interest of promoters and investors. From discovery in 1896 to 1898, the field was strenuously promoted by several members of the Melbourne Stock Exchange, despite the very conservative view of the field's worth offered periodically by the Victorian Geological Survey. By the end of 1898, prospecting on the field's multitude of thin elongated lodes had all but ceased. Rather than proving to be 'another Broken Hill', Mount Deddick had in fact proved to be another Victorian mining bubble.

PHILIP HART: *Michael Dineen O'Keeffe: Union Leader - a 'colourful personality*

Philip Hart retired from the Department of History, University of Waikato, Hamilton, New Zealand in 2002, and has spent the subsequent years exploring, both in the archives and on the ground, the Te Aroha goldfields. In particular, he is interested in the social history of the district.

Following on from an article on the Thames Miners' Union in the last issue of this journal, the paper deals with one of its most prominent, and certainly the most colourful of its leaders. Michael Dineen O'Keeffe who rose from an ordinary miner struggling to meet his debts became, through further education, a manager of small mines and a forceful advocate for miners and mining. Of Irish extraction, sometimes his choice of words amused or embarrassed his listeners, but they were in no doubt about his opinions.

KEVIN R. KAKOSCHKE, OAM, *Radium Hill: From Bindi To Boom Town*

Kevin Kakoschke worked in the mine from 1953 until its closure in 1961. He is a retired mechanical engineering lecturer and is the President of the Radium Hill Historical Association whose objective is to preserve the history and heritage of Radium Hill, Australia's first uranium mine and town.

This paper examines the development of services for the mine and town including the provision of water, power, transportation, accommodation, communication and their planning, costing and development as an integral part of the overall mining project. Despite a shortage of materials, manpower in the early 1950's and the tyranny of distance, a very astute State Premier had a Director of Mines able to recruit and head a team of outstanding 'young Turks' whose specialist knowledge and 'can do' approach ensured the project's success.

W.A. McGEE: *Tragedy on the Strickland: Jack Hides and the Investors Ltd Expedition of 1937*

Bill McGee is a geologist who works in mineral exploration projects in Australia and around the Pacific Islands. He has an interest in Papua New Guinea mining history.

Jack Hides, a noted but controversial explorer of the time, led a prospecting expedition up the Strickland River in now Papua New Guinea in 1937. The expedition failed to reach its objective and resulted in at least eight deaths as well as that of Hides himself. This contribution outlines the course of the expedition and the role of its leader. It discusses reasons for the expedition's failure.

BARRY MCGOWAN: *Hegemony, localism and ethnicity: The 'Welsh' mining communities of Currawang and Frogmore in southern New South Wales.*

Barry McGowan is a Canberra based historian and heritage consultant specialising in mining history and Chinese-Australian history. He is a Visiting Fellow at the School of Archaeology and Anthropology at the ANU. His most recent books are *Australian Ghost Towns* and *Fool's Gold. Myths and legends of gold-seeking in Australia.*

Currawang and Frogmore are two 19th-century copper mining towns in southern NSW. The paper examines the dynamics of both mining communities on the basis of hegemony, localism and ethnicity. Both communities had a Welsh connection and paternalistic elites. The paper suggests that an analysis of mining communities by looking at hegemony acting either in concert with or against forces for diversity like ethnicity and localism is a useful approach.

KEN McQUEEN: *A Thirsty and Confusing Diggings: The Albert Goldfield, Milparinka-Tibooburra, north-western NSW.*

Ken McQueen is a geologist with a keen interest in mining history. He currently holds the positions of Associate Professor in Landscape Evolution and Mineral Exploration at the University of Canberra and Reader in Applied Geochemistry at the Australian National University.

From 1880 to 1882 a succession of confusing discoveries established the Albert Goldfield in the outback of far north-western NSW. The diggers who flocked to the field suffered immense hardship in the arid environment. Four towns were established, but ongoing drought and isolation eventually led to the decline and abandonment of the field. Just over 62,000 ozs, of gold were produced by a combination dry blowing and sluicing or puddling during brief periods of rain, more than a quarter of this during the rushes of the first two years.

Erratum: In Ken McQueen, 'Hidden Copper: The Early History of the Cornish, Scottish and Australian (C.S.A.) Mine, Cobar, NSW', in *Journal of Australasian Mining History*, vol. 4, September 2006, the caption on Figure 2, page 27, should read. 'The mine captain Mathew Bryant is at the front right and Peter Snelson, local Director, is second from the left'.