



AUSTRALASIAN MINING HISTORY ASSOCIATION

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ISSUE 90

EDITORIAL

This will be a very brief newsletter, In fact, the shortest of all our 90 editions. The main focus of this newsletter will be the forthcoming Conference (our 23rd) at Traralgon at the end of September, and also the business to be transacted at the Annual General Meeting. Among the items to be discussed at the latter are changes to the Constitution. This is necessary to bring it into line with items based on the Model Rules, as decreed by the Department of Consumer Affairs, W.A., where we are registered. The changes have to be submitted before 1 July 2019, so there is no great urgency, and the matter will first be brought for consideration to our Advisory Committee who will need to consider how to incorporate them into our 'Own Rules'. Failure to submit will automatically see us under the Model Rules, which will mean we will lose any 'Own' special rules. It should be pointed out that this exercise is Australia wide, and Victoria for instance, introduced the ruling with the rider that submissions had to be made by mid 2016.

The idea, of course, is to bring about greater transparency, and to ease the burden on voluntary administrators!! (for starters, see the 156 pages of instructions). Those interested in bureaucratic exercises and what is involved can find the information at:

<https://www.commerce.wa.gov.au/publications/model-rules-associations-2016>

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

AMHA 23rd Annual Conference, Traralgon, Victoria, 25-29 September.

If you haven't already done so, there is still time to register for the Traralgon conference. There's a full and interesting programme, both in terms of the outings, social activities and the business sessions. Of particular interest to members will be the keynote talk by our Patron, Prof. Geoffrey Blainey, from whom we can expect some interesting insights from his encyclopaedic knowledge of mining history.

The President and committee members look forward to catching up with everyone at the end of this month.

For the full programme of speakers and topics see the details provided at the end of the newsletter. Further information can be found on our webpage.

<http://www.mininghistory.asn.au>

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to member and Northern Territory Committee member Emeritus Professor David Carment, AM, who was recently awarded the 2017 Annual History Citation by the Australian History Association "in recognition of his outstanding contributions to scholarship, and his generosity and unwavering commitment to supporting the history

community, including his mentoring its emerging professionals.” David has long been a supporter and contributor to the AMHA.

Archaeological Excavation: Chinese Mining Village, Harrietsville, VIC., 9-28 October 2017

The following information taken from eBulletin 168-Societies, put out by the Federation of Australian Historical Societies, will undoubtedly be of interest to some of our members:

The public are invited to participate in an archaeological excavation of a Chinese goldrush settlement in northeast Victoria, at Harrietsville in the Ovens Valley, in the foothills of the Australian Alps.

In October 2017, The Uncovered Past Institute, a new not-for-profit organisation established by archaeologists and historians will run a three-week excavation of the site. The institute runs archaeology projects funded by public participation. This will be the first archaeological excavation in Victoria of a Chinese mining settlement. For around thirty years from the late 1850s Harrietsville was home to hundreds of Chinese gold miners. The largely undisturbed site includes mine workings, water races, building foundations, and gardens: a rare survivor of the heyday of Chinese gold mining in Victoria.

The dig is being conducted in collaboration with the Harrietsville Historical Society, and highlights of project participation include:

- Intensive training, and participation in, fieldwork (site excavation, site surveying), and artefact processing (cleaning, recording, identifying and cataloguing).
- A maximum of 4 participants for every supervising archaeologist in our team.
- Guided history and heritage tours of the Upper Ovens Valley, focusing on mining history and the Chinese pioneers of the Valley.
- Daily & evening workshops and lectures.
- Working alongside some of the most

experienced archaeologists & historians of Chinese heritage, and mining heritage, in Australia.

- Learning how to identify Chinese artefacts such as ceramics, coins, bottles, foodstuffs and beverages, medicines & opium-smoking paraphernalia.
- Being a part of archaeological discovery in one of the key areas of 19th century Chinese mining history in Australia.

For more information, visit:

www.uncoveredpast.org.au/harrietsville-chinese-mining-village/

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The 2017 AGM of the Association will take place at the Traralgon Tennis Centre, Cnr Franklin and Davidson Streets, Maryborough at **9.00-10.30am on Wednesday 27th September**. The Agenda items are as follows.

1. Confirmation of Minutes of the Cobar AGM, 20 October 2016.
2. President's Report.
3. Consideration of Treasurer's Report from 1st July 2016 to 30 June 2017.
4. Consideration of Auditor's Report.
5. Motions and Changes to the Constitution.
6. Matters Arising from meeting of the Advisory Committee.
7. Election or Confirmation, or Appointment of Officers.
8. Setting of Subscription Fees for 2018.
9. Report by Journal Editor.
10. Determination of Editor's payment for services.
11. Webmasters Report.
12. Future Conferences:
 - a) Progress report on 2018 AMHA Conference, Cromwell, New Zealand.
 - b) Nominations for 2019 and 2020 Conferences.
13. General Business.

Current Officers and Committee members:

President: Dr Ken McQueen

Vice-President: Dr Nic Haygarth

Sec/Treasurer: Mel Davies OAM

ACT Aert Driessen, Barry McGowan.

SA Peter Bell, Brian Hill, Ross Both.

NSW Adrian Hutton and Greg Knapman.
NT David Carment and Bev Phelts
QLD Ruth Kerr and Jan Wegner.
VIC Nick Williams and Mike Williams.
TAS Chris Boron and Greg Dickens.
WA Wendy Carter and Howard Tew.
NZ Lloyd Carpenter and Philip Hart.

Journal editor: Mel Davies

Assistant Journal Editor: Nick Williams.

Webmaster: Stephen Imrie.

TRARALGON CONFERENCE – BUSINESS SESSIONS

Monday 25th September

8.00am onwards, Registration

8.50 - 9.00 General announcements,
David Kippen.

9.00 - 9.10 Welcome by Ken McQueen,
President of the AMHA.

9.10- 9.20 Welcome from Federation
University, Professor Leigh Sullivan,
Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research).

9.20- 10.30 – Prof Geoffrey Blainey:

Keynote address – *Mulling over our Past*
11.00-11.30 – Geoff Anderson: *Deep
Quartz Reef Mining in the Gippsland
Mountains in the C19th.*

11.30-12.00 – Matthew Churchward:
*“Everything in Good Repair and Equal to
Requirements”. The Engineering Behind
Australia’s Greatest Quartz Mine*

12.00 - 12.30 Jim Enever: *A Story of
Cement. The Tangil Gold Field.*

1.30 - 2.00 Gael Shannon: *Repurposing a
Mining Ground.*

Lloyd Carpenter: *From Goldfields Ruin to
Pop-Culture Icon: The Cardrona.*

2.30 - 3.00 Nic Haygarth: *The Saga of
Jewelled Nights, or Gender Identity on
the Tasmanian Osmiridium Fields.*

3.30 - 4.00 Anne Both: *Slavery’s
Contribution to Mining: British Company
Mining in the C19th.*

4.00 - 4.30 Leigh McKinnon: *Protesting
Protection: Criticism of and Resistance to
the Chinese Protectorate System on the
Victorian Goldfields.*

.30 - 5.00 Robin McLachlan: *“Missed
Too Many Boats”. Australian and New
Zealand Klondike Stampede Who
Stayed On.*

Tuesday 26th September

9.00 - 9.30am Erik Eklund: *Gold and the
Rise of Industrial Mining: International
and Regional Case Studies.*

9.30 - 10.00 Duncan Money: *‘A Second
Arizona’: American Mining Engineers
and the Development of the Copper Belt,
1926-39.*

10.00 - 10.30 Benjamin Mountford: *The
Pacific Gold Rushes and the Struggle for
Order.*

11.00 - 11.30 Peta Belic: *Mining History
Congestion: Australian Mining History
Being Compressed Between a Mountain,
the Sea and a Neoliberal Reality.*

12.00 - 12.30 Lynnette Peterson: *‘There is
Nothing New’: Mining and the
Environment.*

1.30 - 2.00 Peter McCarthy: *Rediscovering
Walhalla 1984-1987.*

2.00 - 2.30 Alissa Flatley and Ian D
Rutherford: *History of River Diversion
Designs within Australian Mining.*

2.30 - 3.00 John Warner: *Gippsland
Mining Man.*

3.50 - 4.30 Gilbert Ralph: *An Illustrated
History of Western Mining Corporation
(WMC).*

Poster Presentations:

Chris Boron: *Whale Strandings and
Seismic Surveys in Tasmanian waters – Is
There a Correlation?*

Ross Both: *The Silver-Lead Mines of Glen
Osmond, South Australia: Take Your
Pick.*

David Kippen: *The Lady of the Swamp:
From a Fortune in the Mountains to
Poverty Near the Sea.*

Elizabeth McQueen: *The Horrific Results
of Accidental Explosions at the Long
Tunnel and Long Tunnel Extended
Goldmines, Walhalla, Victoria.*

Wednesday 27th September

Evening Free, or **Public Lecture**, 7.30 –
9.00pm, Traralgon Tennis Club.

Lt Colonel Bernard Mulholland, *‘General
Sir John Monash, Engineer, Soldier and
Nation Builder’.* MC Ken McQueen.

Thursday 28th September

9.00 – 9.30 Paul Macgregor, Diann Talbot
and Andrew Swift: *Chinese Gold Mining*

in Northeast Victoria – a C19th Success Story.

9.30 – 10.00 James Lerk: *On the Tail End – Chinese Mine Tailings on the Bendigo Goldfield.*

10.00 – 10.30 Barry McGowan: *Economics, Organization and Society: Chinese Mining Communities on the Braidwood, Kiandra and Adelong Goldfields of Southern NSW.*

11.00 - 11.30 Louise Blake: *Tribute Mining and Family Life on the Upper Goulburn Goldfields, 1870-1880.*

11.30 – 12.00 Lloyd Carpenter: *Living in a Tiny Stone Box: Myths and Miners' Houses.*

12.00 – 12.30 Ross Both: *'It's Lovely Down the Pit My Lad': Songs and Poems from Australian Coalfields.*

1.30 - 2.00 Roger Kellaway: *Alfred Selwyn and the Mersey Coalfield 1851-1855.*

2.00 - 2.30 David Kippen: *Mining Sub-Basaltic Brown Coal Around Thorpdale: 1880s to 1960s.*

2.30 - 3.00 Barry Sykes: *Briquettes: An Overview.*

There will also, of course be the usual full programme of social events. The details can be found on our AMHA webpage.

MJD/

September'17