



# Medical History

## Newsletter

AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND SOCIETY OF THE HISTORY OF MEDICINE INC

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### THE PRESIDENT'S PAGE

Another three months have passed since the last Newsletter from the ANZSHM during which time several activities of the Society have continued. My great pleasure is to commend the many people responsible for these and indicate to them the gratitude of the members for their efforts.

Production of the Newsletter is in itself a major undertaking for which we all are enormously grateful to Derek Dow. Derek seems to function like a perpetual clock, producing without fail each quarter another issue, packed with interesting news both of our Society's activities and of events more dispersed within the world of medical history. I am sure that I am not the only one of our members who is fascinated by the intriguing morsels, items that almost certainly many of us would otherwise miss, that so often he manages to bring to our notice. I know from personal experience of having edited a newsletter for another organisation that an editor's task for a publication such as this is often far more demanding than casual readers recognise, especially if the editor aims to grasp the attention of the readership with every issue. Derek does a great job and we must all be most grateful to him.

Our other crucially important publication, of course, is *Health and History* - under the joint editorship of Hans Pols, Catherine Coleborne and Peter Hobbins. Here again we are blessed by a dedicated and insightful team who manage to create an outstanding publication with every issue. Volume 18, Number 1, has recently arrived and I have enjoyed reading it from cover to cover. I suspect that in this I am far from alone. We are so fortunate to have contributors who can produce such high quality articles ranging over such a diverse range of medical historical topics and a team of editors who then put the whole together in a highly professional way. This issue was far from unique in this regard, but to have dissertations that range from artistic overtones in hospitals to military medicine, from historical aspects of intellectual disability to tropical medicine, from the interface of politics with health in recent Cambodian history, to the application of mainstream medical technology, to chiropractic practice, is surely enough to keep

everyone satiated. But then to round it off with an interview with one of Australia's most outstanding medical scientists delving into the development of his ideas about his field of research: this makes for a truly outstanding publication. And all of that before the usual series of thoughtful book reviews and annotations about museums and the media. If any of our members have not as yet found time to read this issue of *Health and History* I would encourage them to pick it up and start reading asap.

The Society of course has many other ongoing activities beyond its publications. Its Executive Committee meets for close on half a day each quarter by Skype to manage its affairs. Madonna Grehan is convening a conference committee that is advanced in arranging for next year's Biennial Scientific Conference. Anthea Hyslop as Hon Treasurer valiantly ensures that the books are balanced. Charmaine Robson as Hon Secretary deals with many day-to-day issues as they arise, preparing considerable documentation for the various meetings, and now most importantly producing the outstanding list of 'WHAT'S ON in Medical History' throughout Australia and New Zealand.

We are indeed fortunate to have so many enthusiastic participants among our membership. My thanks, all our thanks, go out to them.

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## ALL ABOUT OURSELVES

Members of the ANZSHM describe their life, work and interests

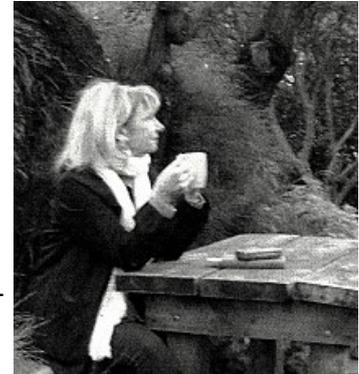
I realise now that I was always going to be a historian of medicine. The signs were all there, although I just didn't see them at the time; and I have my Edinburgh upbringing to thank for instigating what has been (and still is!) a fascinating career.

The school I attended, the Mary Erskine School, occupied three old houses in Queen Street in the centre of Edinburgh. Just along the road was the house where James Simpson had conducted his anaesthesia 'experiments' with his students as fairly willing participants. In Charlotte Square, where I caught the bus home, was a house in which Joseph Lister had lived with his wife Agnes when he was a young surgeon at the Infirmary. Agnes's father, James Syme, had lived in Corstorphine (now a suburb of Edinburgh) where I was born. Syme used to travel to the city by way of the Drum Brae, which I knew well. In future years, when I wrote about Lister and his father-in-law, I could well imagine them travelling to work, often taking with them in their carriage a friend or colleague, but insisting that during the journey 'There would be no talking'. Even if this story is an urban myth, attributed at times to both men, it is so redolent of the old Edinburgh ethos that if it wasn't true it should have been!

I completed my DipEd at Moray House, walking to classes past the closes and wynds where most of Burke and Hare's expeditions ended in murder, with the resulting 'subject' wheeled in the gloom off to Knox's anatomy rooms. We never wanted to be at late classes in those days! However the exploits of the super-charged body snatchers have contributed to many of my history lectures, with even the most cynical ('Why do we have to do this subject?') medical students caught up in these macabre episodes.

Leaving Edinburgh, I taught in London for a few years then came to Sydney with my Australian husband. After four children, in order to get my brain back into gear, I went back to university at UNSW where I completed a PhD in medical history, supervised brilliantly by Professor Randall Albury. A natural topic for the research seemed to be the connection between doctors in New South Wales and those in and from Edinburgh. In the process my new hero became Dr George Pringle of Parramatta, an immigrant Scot who claimed to be a correspondent of Lister's (highly unlikely as Pringle was a bit of a self-promoter!) but who actually had been one of

Lister's 'young men' at the Infirmary and had later attempted to introduce the anti-septic system of wound treatment into his surgical practice at Parramatta. I loved my days in Sydney's Mitchell Library, reading Pringle's somewhat idiosyncratic case notes. Not quite so lovely was coming home to write them up amid the chaos of feeding children, homework and evening sports practice!



Since then, I have taught courses in the History of Medicine and in Medicine, Murder and Forensic Science to medical, science and arts students at UNSW and been fortunate enough to be a visiting lecturer at the universities of Sydney and Melbourne. I was a member of the ANZSHM Council and was for several years the honorary secretary of the *NSW Society of the History of Medicine*. Luckily for them I always refused the position of treasurer!

A few years ago I had a fascinating experience as advisor on 19<sup>th</sup> century medicine for the ABC television program *Outback House*, trying to convince the producer that colonists were really only interested in opiate medicine and not the herbal remedies that he thought appropriate!

I have given interviews and talks on several ABC radio programs including *Rear Vision*, *Encounter*, *The Spirit of Things* and *The Margaret Throsby Interview*, which I hope encouraged interest in medical history among listeners unfamiliar with the discipline. My children and grandchildren, however, were most impressed by the interview I did about children's health with Antonia Kidman, when she came to my house with her own camera crew!

Currently I have an honorary position at UNSW and have co-published a couple of papers on surgical clothing and the evolution of nurses' uniforms. It has been an amazing, if somewhat accidental, career; and I am grateful to my Edinburgh upbringing for kick-starting it all!

**Susan Hardy**  
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## MEMBERS' NEWS

### Welcome!

Angeline Brasier (VIC)  
Mark Garwood (VIC)  
Nicole Goulding (VIC)  
Barry Partridge (NZ)  
Nicholas Radford (VIC)  
Ian Shearer (NZ)

### Vale

Stefania Winifred Siedlecky (25 March 1921 – 24 June 2016) was born in Blackheath NSW, the eldest child of Winifred and Stefan Siedlecky. On completing her medical degree she became one of the first two female residents at St Vincent's Hospital, before moving into general practice, and a long-term honorary position at the Rachel Forster Hospital in Redfern. In 1971 Stefania joined the Family Planning Association and in 1974 helped establish the pioneering Leichhardt Women's Health Centre and the Preterm Foundation.

Stefania valued the important role of historical understanding for her political and medical work. As a long-time member (and executive member 2007-9) of the NSW Society for the History of Medicine, and from 2009 the ANZSHM, Stefania contributed in a variety of ways. In 1990, with co-author Diana Wyndham, she published *Populate and Perish - Australian Women's Fight for Birth Control*.

## CONGRATULATIONS

On 16 August 2016 Professor Janet McCalman, a long-standing member and a former editor of *Health and History*, was elevated to the rank of Redmond Barry Distinguished Professor, a rare distinction in the University of Melbourne.

Described on the University website as a population health historian, Janet is currently engaged on a 'long-term study of Australia's convict populations from the colonial era'.

## INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR THE HISTORY OF THE NEUROSCIENCES

The ISHN recently held its 21<sup>st</sup> scientific meeting in the lovely Dutch city of Maastricht. It provided the usual broad selection of topics covering all aspects of the neurosciences and the standard of research was again exceptional. One of the most challenging sections was a special symposium on New Perspectives of Neurosciences and the 'Third Reich', which exposed many of the research activities in German neuroscience during the period 1933-45.

Two Australians contributed to the meeting. John Carmody presented a paper titled 'Perfidious Albion – two Nobel prizes which were won and lost'. In 1962 Watson and Crick were recipients, but missing was Rosalind Franklin; in 1963 Hodgkin, Huxley and Eccles were awarded the Nobel Prize for their contribution to nerve transmission but John made a very convincing case that the American biophysicist KC Cole was also a worthy contributor.

I presented a paper on 'Kenny versus the medical establishment in the management of infantile paralysis', based on some extraordinary archival material which I recently uncovered on the Sister Kenny clinic at the Royal North Shore Hospital of Sydney.

For those with an interest in the history of the neurosciences I would certainly recommend this annual meeting.

The next meeting will be held in the French city of Besancon in July 2017 and details will soon be available on the website [www.ishn.org](http://www.ishn.org). Information about the Society and past meetings can also be viewed here.



*Maastricht by night*

**Catherine Storey**  
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## EDITOR'S COLUMN

Contributions to the Newsletter are always welcome. The next deadline for copy is 15 November 2016. Copy should be sent to the editor, Derek A Dow at [d.dow@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:d.dow@auckland.ac.nz).

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## AMPI NEWS

### Colonial Doctor Takes a Bow

The AMPI editor was privileged recently to attend celebrations in Canberra to mark the 50th anniversary of the *Australian Dictionary of Biography*, which is published by the National Centre of Biography at ANU. The main event of the celebrations was a conference on contemporary challenges facing national biographical dictionaries, with speakers including the distinguished editors of the *Oxford Dictionary of Biography* and the *American National Biography*.

These monumental reference works carry the primary responsibility for the national biographical record in their respective countries. However they are supplemented by independent projects – of which AMPI is an example – that are national in scope, but limited to a specific period or profession.

A major theme of the conference was the changing role of national biographical dictionaries, which have traditionally featured elite individuals, but now aim to be more 'representative'. While AMPI cannot be accused of elitism, since it includes all the members of its target population, the question of which doctors might be considered to be representative of the profession is an interesting one.

A database such as AMPI can readily be used to create a realistic profile of the typical member of its target population. Representative members would then be those most resembling this profile: in the case of AMPI they would be British general practitioners, with the double qualification in medicine and surgery, whose fathers were farmers, merchants, doctors or other professionals.

But this view of the colonial doctor, though it might be considerably elaborated, depending on the data available, remains stubbornly one-dimensional. A truer picture of the nineteenth-century practitioner would more closely resemble the well-known portrait of Dr Lydgate in the novel *Middlemarch* by George Eliot (1871). What makes him memorable is really his character, with its various strengths and weaknesses, rather than his professional profile, skilfully drawn though it may be. Insights into character add a vital second dimension to the subject's life story.

Fortunately much is revealed about the characters of colonial doctors in the records that survive. The notorious few, who took to drink, or worse, are certainly not representative of the profession. Neither are the prominent few who established

lucrative city practices, although it might be acknowledged that they did in some sense embody the aspirations of doctors generally.

More representative than either of these extremes is the doctor who settled early into a rural or suburban practice and stayed for many years, earning the respect, and often affection, of his community. Many obituaries will be found that celebrate the character of this type of doctor. Although not necessarily ambitious, he had made the most of his educational opportunities, and was jealous of his professional and personal reputation. He was the husband of one wife and the father of several children, a friend to all and confidential adviser to many.

A good example is that of Thomas Crawford RN, who retired from the navy to practise at Beechworth, Victoria, from 1853 until his death ten years later. An obituary in the local paper stated simply that he was known throughout the district for his professional skill and 'unostentatious charity'. Similarly, the obituary of Matthew Blood, who died in 1883 after thirty years at Kapunda, South Australia, noted that he was greatly esteemed, and was widely regarded as a 'skilful, careful and kind-hearted physician'.

In 1885, following the death of Dr Edwin J Bennett at Stawell, Victoria, his obituary noted his twenty-six years of service to the community. He had been identified with 'every public movement', but above all he was known to be 'kind and charitable in the extreme' - a man in whom the poor of the town had lost 'a good friend'. Examples such as this could be multiplied many times over.

Another useful source of evidence regarding the characters of colonial doctors is found in the testimonials and farewell addresses with which they were sometimes presented on leaving a district where they had practised for many years. Not infrequently these were published in the newspapers, and so can be unearthed with patient research.

Time often tarnishes the memory of past generations, but these accolades to our medical pioneers help to restore some of the old lustre. They also perhaps serve to alert the attentive historian or biographer to a subtle cultural dissonance – one that warns against the too hasty application of modern worldviews to those who may yet, however faintly, be heard to speak for themselves.

**Stephen Due**  
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## Representing New Zealand's colonial doctors?

Stephen Due's column set me thinking about the representation of doctors in the five volumes of the *Dictionary of New Zealand Biography*, published between 1990 and 2000 and detailing the lives of those who flourished from 1840 to 1960. Of the 3019 entries, around 4 per cent were medical men and women, though not all of them were recognised for professional attainments.

Eight of the 17 medical subjects in volume 1 (1769-1869) had MD degrees granted in the 1830s by the Edinburgh or Glasgow universities, with the recipients often choosing to pursue careers in areas other than medicine; the remainder were primarily College licentiates or fellows.

Several were honoured as senior politicians, including the colony's longest-serving provincial superintendent (Isaac Featherston), a speaker of the House of Representatives (David Monro), a colonial secretary (Andrew Sinclair), and an auditor-general (Charles Knight). JD Hooker and Ernst Dieffenbach made their mark as naturalists, with two others gaining acclaim as botanists, while Monro's son-in-law James Hector, MD Edinburgh 1856, was recruited to the colony as a geologist on the back of his experiences in the Canadian Rockies and rose to become New Zealand's pre-eminent science administrator.

Sheep farming provided a lucrative income for Monro and JAR Menzies – as it did for a number of later medical arrivals in the colony – while John Logan Campbell, who is eulogised as the 'Father of Auckland', acquired a fortune through business enterprises, most notably as a brewer. The most colourful of this cohort was Shadrach Jones, whose career embraced working as an auctioneer, a stable-owner, a hotel-keeper, and a theatrical impresario.

None of the 17 men were selected for their contributions to the day-to-day lives and health requirements of the Pakeha or Maori populations.

Volume 2 encompassed those who came to prominence from 1870 to 1900. Again there was a focus on those who contributed in areas other than general practice or family medicine, such as health or hospital administration, university teaching, or local government. Only one of the entries in the nineteenth century volumes – Truby King – was born in New Zealand and he was categorized as a bank clerk, asylum superintendent and child health reformer.

The selection criteria altered in volume 3 (1900-20) with half the 31 subjects (19 men and 12 women) born in New Zealand and a number of others migrating there as children. Positive

discrimination or political correctness saw the inclusion of the first three Maori doctors and five of the first six women to graduate from Otago; the sixth died of tuberculosis two years after graduating. Most of the women worked in maternity or child health while the men almost all achieved in areas other than straightforward medicine, with service in WW1 featuring in many cases.

Those interested in the nuts and bolts of pre-WW1 colonial practice in New Zealand must look elsewhere for evidence and it is here that the ever-expanding Papers Past website (the equivalent of the National Library of Australia Trove project) may provide answers to future inquirers as to what constituted a representative colonial doctor.

## ISHM NOTES

The 45<sup>th</sup> ISHM Congress, to be held in Buenos Aires in September, coincides with the Bicentennial Anniversary of Argentinian independence. Online registration has now closed. However for those planning to go, but who have not yet got around to registering, this can still be arranged with the secretariat at the time of the event.

So to other news! As publication editor for the Historical Society of the Northern Territory, I was approached by Society member Hugo Rée at our conference in Sydney last year. He had written a history of Hansen's Disease in Queensland but was unable to get it published. It seems publishing houses of regional universities in Queensland and other parts of Australia have closed. We had a look at his manuscript and were much impressed. It is a detailed social history that includes stories of patients, staff and managers. It also includes the rather archaic public and medical attitudes of the day to race and to leprosy that only significantly changed when effective treatment became available. The story is similar for the Northern Territory and for Northern Western Australia. We decided on the merit of the work to go ahead. Hugo assembled illustrations and also an excellent foreword by infectious diseases physician, Marion Woods. We contracted with Charles Darwin University to print the manuscript and it is now done. Hugo will be speaking on the history of Hansen's Disease at a national tropical medicine conference in Brisbane in September and will have some books to purchase there. It is a rather bleak history that needs to be better known. (See review on p.7.)

**Brian Reid**  
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## NSW BRANCH NEWS

The NSW members are spoilt for choice with the number of meetings that are advertised with a history of medicine focus. However, our membership is changing and needs have altered. For this reason we are holding a survey to assess the best choice of meetings for our members. You will shortly receive by email a request to complete the survey and we would very much appreciate a speedy response. Many thanks in anticipation. Executive, NSW branch ANZSHM.

Meetings happening in the near future in Sydney include:

1. Callan Park for History Week – Sunday 11 September 2016. Two talks will be delivered between 2.00 and 3.30pm, followed by a tour of the Garry Owens and Kirkbride buildings. For more information or enquiries contact [focp.admin@gmail.com](mailto:focp.admin@gmail.com). Bookings are essential at [www.trybooking.com/MBOU](http://www.trybooking.com/MBOU)
2. To celebrate the 200th anniversary of the Royal Botanic Gardens in Sydney, there will be an exhibition entitled 'Herbals: From myth and magic to Medicine', at the Red Box Gallery, National Herbarium, Royal Botanic Gardens from 16 August to 16th September 10.00 am to 4.00 pm daily. For more information see [www.rbg Syd.nsw.gov.au](http://www.rbg Syd.nsw.gov.au).

**Enquiries/RSVP for all events to Catherine Storey, [cestorey@bigpond.com](mailto:cestorey@bigpond.com).**

## VICTORIA BRANCH NEWS

The Society held its Annual General meeting in March 2016, when Pam Craig was elected President, and Gordon Whyte Vice-President. The Society expressed their gratitude to Madonna Grehan for all the work she had put in during her two years as President.

Madonna's work is not done, as she has enthusiastically taken on the role of convenor of the ANZSHM Biennial Conference, to be held from 11-15 July 2017, at the Australian Catholic University in Fitzroy, Melbourne. Madonna is leading an enthusiastic organising committee, and an exciting program is promised, with several new innovations. The conference dinner will be held at the Melbourne Museum, among the dinosaurs!

After the AGM, members and guests heard a wonderful lecture by Dr Caitlin Mahar, entitled 'The good death: dying, suffering and doctors in the 19<sup>th</sup> century'. Caitlin explored attitudes and practices related to death and illness, and ways in which they differed to those of more recent times.

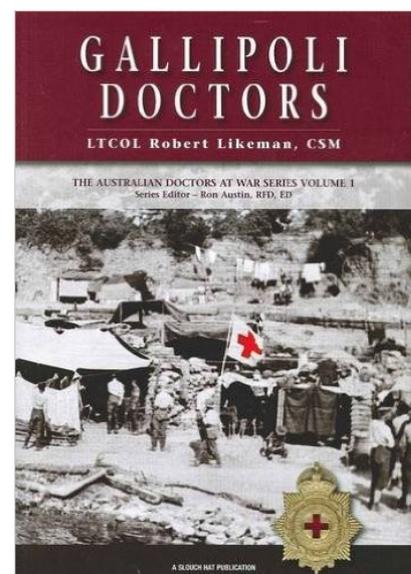
At the May meeting, Dr Geoff Quail discussed 'Did disease determine the outcome at Gallipoli'. He noted that during the Crimean War, poor sanitation, along with poor nutrition, debilitation and disease, led to the death of 36 per cent of the army in the first 7 months. The advice of medical officers had been ignored. A similar experience followed during the Boer War, with typhoid and dysentery accounting for deaths that were nearly three times those occurring in battle.

In recruiting men for the Gallipoli campaign, little attention was paid to dental care or education in sanitation and disease prevention. This was compounded by the conditions on the Gallipoli Peninsula, where there was shortage of fresh water, an infestation of flies, an inability to bury many of the dead, and an abundance of animal manure. Expert advice was not sought, and infection was thought to be water-borne. Military command thus refused to incinerate infected material and excrement. Administrative duplication and inertia meant that it was several months before proper attention was paid to the issue of sanitation. Still, the general deterioration of the troops continued, as a result of flies, bad weather, the monotonous and unpalatable food, lice, dust, and battle fatigue. Many suffered from hepatitis or scarlet fever. Ultimately, the number of troops reporting sick far outweighed the number wounded, and General Monro ordered the withdrawal of troops from the peninsula.

The August meeting will coincide with the AGM of the ANZSHM, and we will hear Dr Rebecca Kippen give an account of the health outcomes of the convicts transported to Tasmania between 1812 and 1853.

**Rod Westhorpe**  
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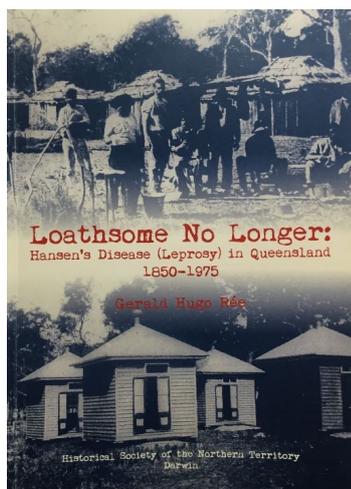
*Anyone interested in medicine at Gallipoli should read Robert Likeman's 2010 book, Gallipoli Doctors.*



## BOOK REVIEW

Gerald Hugo Rée, *Loathsome No Longer: Hansen's Disease (Leprosy) in Queensland 1850-1975*, Historical Society of the Northern Territory, Darwin, 2015.

Despite considerable historical scholarship on Hansen's disease (HD) in Queensland, we have yet to see a publication that relates this history from its colonial beginnings to the decline in the latter half of the twentieth century. Gerald Rée fills this gap in a compact, readable and engaging style. Rée's expertise as a former physician of infectious diseases allows for informed interpretations of the medical aspects of this history. This



clear enunciation enhances the lay person's understanding of the ordeals endured by those affected, and the decisions made by policymakers and doctors. One policy, the incarceration of people with Hansen's disease on island 'leper' colonies, is a dominant theme of the book. Rée's empathy for those subjected to this 'inhumane despotic treatment' is evident throughout, perhaps sharpened by his clinical experience with both AIDS and HD patients.

According to official records, the majority of HD cases in Australia were Indigenous and Pacific Islander people. Queensland was exceptional as it also had significant numbers of European cases. As Rée discusses, racial discrimination underpinned the differential management of both these groups, as well as the Chinese identified with the disease around the turn of the century. Nevertheless, European patients were not spared the harsh consequences of bearing the signs of this disease until the middle of the twentieth century.

**Charmaine Robson**  
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## Sequel to the review of the biography of William Russ Pugh, May 2016

I would like to report an exciting historical event, associated with the 'Log Book & Journal on Board The Barque Derwent 360 tons ... on her voyage to New Holland' kept by Dr William Russ Pugh MD during his 4-month voyage from Gravesend to Hobart Town in 1835.

I discovered the existence of the journal from extracts published in the now-defunct *Illustrated Tasmanian Mail* on 6 December 1934. The Journal was said to have been given to Mrs Kathleen M Henderson, a great granddaughter of Pugh's parents. A search in the Tasmanian and Victorian archives failed to reveal any evidence of this woman.

With the assistance of Mrs Aileen Pike, an experienced genealogist from Launceston, we were able to find a granddaughter of Mrs Henderson living in Bradford, England. She informed us that her brother, Alastair Henderson of Bristol, had the original copy of the Journal. Lengthy correspondence with Mr Henderson resulted in me receiving a CD with 60 high resolution images of the Journal pages. I am in the process of transcribing the Journal.

At a family get-together in England two months ago the family very generously decided to permanently donate the Journal to the Tasmanian Archive and Heritage Office. At present a generous and cooperative antique bookseller in Bristol is arranging the provision of an export certificate from the Arts Council. He has agreed to suitably pack the Journal when the certificate is received and arrange to courier the package to Hobart.

At the annual Pugh Day Memorial Lecture in Launceston, Tasmania, on 18 June 2016 Aileen Pike outlined the story of the Journal's discovery and fascinating extracts from 28-year-old Dr Pugh's Journal. I am looking forward to presenting this tale at the meeting in Melbourne next year.



**John David Paull**  
jdpaull@intas.net.au *Statue of WR Pugh MD.*

## **BLAST FROM THE PAST** *Medical History Australia 25* *years ago*

The August 1991 newsletter included the rather bleak message, 'There appears to be a dearth of conferences. We have received no news.' Now there is an endless bombardment of information about conferences, with many organisers adopting a scattergun rather than a targeted approach. A few months ago my wife attended a conference in Dublin without leaving home, through the medium of Skype. The latest trend favours entirely virtual conferences, with proponents extolling this as an advance which opens doors to those from less developed countries who cannot afford the travel. I cannot help but think that for many participants the resulting lack of personal contact would outweigh the supposed benefits.

Following on from this thought, the newsletter noted one of the keynote speakers at the 1991 ASHM Perth conference, ISHM president Hans Schadewaldt had afterwards visited his old friend Bryan Gandevia, where he was 'able to feast his eyes on Bryan's fine library in his home in the Blue Mountains'. Some of you will recall Bryan and Dorothy hosting a busload of delegates after a day trip to the Blue Mountains during the 1989 Sydney conference. The reference to Bryan's library brought back fond memories of a four-day stay which Linda and I enjoyed with Bryan in 1997.

I was treated to fine wines – two bottles from his superb cellar opened at lunchtime and the same again for dinner – while Linda missed out since she was midway through her second pregnancy. (The abstinence paid off with the progeny now topping 194cm!). On our final night I had free rein to browse Bryan's magnificent early pamphlet collection, with the added bonus of a fine Scotch malt delivered to the desk by our host. It was all too much after the wine and, to my eternal shame as a full-blooded Scot, I surreptitiously tipped the entire contents out the window.

The adoption of virtual conferences would, I fear, destroy the conviviality which we enjoy at our biennial meetings and forever alter the relationships between scholars from different countries, a concern with which I am sure Bryan would heartily concur.

## **HISTORY OF ANAESTHESIA**

The proceedings of the 8th International Symposium on the History of Anaesthesia, held in Sydney and Melbourne in 2013, have now been published as *History of Anaesthesia VIII. Proceedings of the 8th International Symposium on the History of Anaesthesia*, Sydney, Australian Society of Anaesthetists, 2016, 794pp. ISBN 978-0-646-95069-3. Two of the three editors, Michael Cooper and Christine Ball, are members of the ANZSHM. Of the 100+ papers in the volume, at least 20 are on Australian or New Zealand topics, including Australian women in anaesthesia, and anaesthetic practice at Gallipoli in 1915.

October 16 marks the 170<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the first successful public demonstration of ether anaesthesia by William TG Morton. To mark the occasion, the Harry Daly Museum and the Richard Bailey Library of the Australian Society of Anaesthetists (ASA) will hold a historical seminar at the ASA Head Office in North Sydney. For more details about the seminar email [asa@asa.org.au](mailto:asa@asa.org.au); we would love to see you there.  
Julianne Kiely  
Curator, Harry Daly Museum

The Geoffrey Kaye Museum of Anaesthetic History has been working with the School of Philosophical, Historical and International Studies, Faculty of Arts, Monash University, to create a full-day workshop for interested medical professionals to develop and enhance their skills in historical research. The masterclass, which costs \$99, will be held on Saturday 15 October. For registration details, see museum's webpage: <http://www.anzca.edu.au/about-anzca/geoffrey-kaye-museum>.

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Enquiries about membership of the Society should be sent to the Administrative Secretary, ANZSHM, PO Box 4092, University of Melbourne VIC 3052. E-mail: [anzshm@anzshm.org.au](mailto:anzshm@anzshm.org.au)

For the latest information, visit the ANZSHM Internet Website: [www.anzshm.org.au](http://www.anzshm.org.au)

LETTERS, PHOTOGRAPHS AND ARTICLES ARE WELCOME, PREFERABLY IN ELECTRONIC FORMAT.

**DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT ISSUE WILL BE 15 NOVEMBER 2016.**