

# FRIENDS NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2013

Donald Friend (1915-1989) Shoppers at Night, Bondi Junction Mall From 'Ayam-Ayam Kesayangan' (Donald Friend Diaries: MS 5959) Manuscripts Collection



Friends of the  
NATIONAL  
LIBRARY  
OF AUSTRALIA INC.

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Gary Kent

## MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Dear Friends

Can it be that 2013 is here? Indeed, by the time you read this message it will be March and the year will be well under way. Also well under way is the Friends program of activities intended to keep you interested, entertained, informed and amused. We hope we succeed in this task.

To help us assess whether the Committee is providing what you want, we have developed a short questionnaire to seek your views on what is currently offered by the Friends and what else you would like to see. You will see further details elsewhere in this newsletter.

The first meeting of the new Committee, elected at last year's Annual General Meeting, was held on 11 December 2012.

Chair—Gary Kent

Deputy Chair—Joan Kennedy

Treasurer—Bill Geering

Assistant Treasurer—Margaret Pender

Newsletter Editor—Sylvia Marchant

Other Committee Members are Anne Davis, Phillip Dean, Alan Ives, Elizabeth Kennedy, Jenny Oates, Dennis Pearce and Ros Welch.

Congratulations to all recently-joined members of the Friends. Our very well-attended new members' night was held on 1 February and I thank Friends Committee member Anne Davis for hosting the evening in my unavoidable absence interstate.

The annual Kenneth Myer lecture is one of the flagship events in the annual Friends calendar and I am delighted to announce that this year the address will be presented by Professor Julian Disney AO. Professor Disney is a very distinguished Australian who will be known to most of you. He will deliver the lecture on 15 August 2013. Further information will be provided in our June newsletter.

By now you will have received advice of our winter trip: a two day visit to the Sydney Writers Festival on the weekend of 25 and 26 May 2013. This promises to be a most enjoyable event and I encourage you to book early. Bookings are open until 23 March.

This edition of the newsletter features a number of articles which we hope will be of interest to you. They include notes on the Treasures Gallery's first birthday event, the Friends Christmas Party and New Members' Evening, the Enemark collection of panoramic photographs, and the recent talk on Hilda Rix Nicholas' early sketch books, among other things.

Best wishes

Gary Kent



Anne-Marie Schwirtlich, Oli Scholz, Simone Vinnal and Ryan Stokes at the Treasures Gallery Anniversary Celebration at the National Library of Australia on 8 November 2012



Mortimer Menpes, La Gioconda, between 1900 and 1909



Robyn Archer speaking at the Treasures Gallery Anniversary Celebration at the National Library of Australia on the 8 November 2012

## RECENT EVENTS

### A Gift for the Treasures Gallery's first birthday

Thursday 1 November was an exciting evening for the Library. Exciting because Mr Ryan Stokes, Chair of the National Library Council, announced the establishment of the James and Bettison Treasures Curatorship, a brilliant initiative to promote and improve access to and encourage serious scholarship related to the Treasures Gallery and the National Library collections. This tremendous initiative was how the Library celebrated the first anniversary of the successful Treasures Gallery.

The curatorship is named in commemoration of philanthropists Helen James and Jim Bettison and is generously supported by their daughter Simone Vinnal and her family.

Anne-Marie Schwirtlich, Director-General of the Library, paid tribute to Helen James and to her husband, Jim Bettison, who died in 2009. Helen made an extensive contribution to arts and culture as a philanthropist, an arts practitioner and teacher and was a tireless supporter of the Treasures Gallery through her work on the Development Council Board. Sadly, she passed away in 2011, a few months before the Treasures Gallery opened. The announcement of the curatorship is testament to Helen's commitment to the Library and is a fitting commemoration to her and to Jim.

Together, Helen and Jim were an extraordinary force for good in the community at large. They were active in their support for young people and for arts and culture—from the Experimental Art Foundation to the Festival of Ideas, the Art Gallery of South Australia and, of course, the National Library of Australia. They gave generously to the Treasures Gallery project, recognising early the significance of the gallery to Australia's cultural life. Helen first spoke of the creation of a Treasures curatorship in 2009 and it was her wish that this curatorship be established. Her aspiration was for the Library to appoint a scholar who would bring the Library's contemporary and historical collections to life for a wide variety of audiences; who would have a national and international reach; and who would be a significant voice in Australian cultural life.

As part of the celebration Mr Stokes went on to mention some achievements of the gallery in its first year. Opened to the public in 2011 it has already attracted over 120,000 visitors and because sections of the gallery are regularly refreshed with new content from the Library's collections, each subsequent visit brings a new experience. Current highlights include a rare copy of Ptolemy's *Geographia* from 1535, a letter and a cheque by Charles Dickens sent to his sons in Australia, a copy of Leonardo da Vinci's *Mona Lisa* by Australian-born artist Mortimer Menpes, a whimsical fairytale watercolour by Ida Rentoul Outhwaite and an Ethiopian healing scroll from the 19th century.

The Director-General also praised the performance of the gallery commenting that, overwhelmingly, visitors declare that the collection on display and the space itself are remarkable and fill them with awe, wonder and pride and, for many of them, their enjoyment and appreciation is the direct result of interaction with a very special group of people—our Volunteer Guides

The indefatigable Centenary of Canberra Creative Director Robyn Archer, AO, lent her legendary energy to the event, speaking warmly about the proposed curatorship and adding generous remarks about the role and contributions to national life of the Library and other national institutions in Canberra and also shared her enthusiasm for her role as creative director of the centenary of Canberra in 2013. The evening was much enhanced by the tempting delicacies from *bookplate* and enjoyed by over 90 Friends.

Sylvia Marchant



### **The Friends Christmas Party, 7 December 2012**

The library foyer was suitably appointed with Christmas decorations and a sparkling Christmas tree for the Friends Christmas Party on Friday 7 December. Music from the piano tinkled with seasonal sounds as over 100 friends arrived in party mood. Gary Kent, Chair of the Friends committee, welcomed guests and thanked the Friends for their support throughout the year. He also welcomed Nena Nikolic who has been appointed to the position of the Friends Administrative Assistant.

He then drew the lucky door prizes which included books from the National Library's bookshop, double passes to the movie Liberal Arts and several bottles of wine, all of which were gladly accepted by the lucky recipients.

Friends were next treated to a talk by Helen Ennis presenting some insights into her splendid exhibition *Things: photographing the constructed world*, at which Gary invited guests to wander through after the formalities. He closed proceedings by passing thanks to Linus Foley, the pianist who kept the Christmas spirit alive during the evening with a selection of lilting tunes, the staff of Bookplate who kept the gathering refreshed, and Marjorie and Nena for their efficient organisation. The guests then got down to the serious part of the evening, chatting and socialising. A pleasant end to a successful year.

Sylvia Marchant

### **New Members' Evening, 1 February 2013**

Despite an unseasonably damp and chilly evening, over 60 new Friends, Friends committee members and NLA staff members gathered in the comfortable surroundings of the 4th floor Friends Lounge, with its magnificent view over Lake Burley Griffin. Wine, soft drinks and nibbles were provided and the ice was soon broken as we got to know each other.

Anne Davis, Chair of the Events sub-committee, greeted our new Friends and introduced committee members and staff. She outlined some of the interesting events planned for 2013, including lunchtime lectures, evening events, tours, and an exciting visit to the Sydney Writers Festival in May. She also announced that a special event is planned to be held later in the year to celebrate the Friends sponsorship of the digitisation of the calendar year 1975 as part of the NLA's *The Canberra Times* Digitisation Project. Details of this event will be made available soon.

Regular activities include: the popular Friends Book Club which continues to meet on the last Tuesday of each month and also plans to hold lectures on relevant books and authors during autumn and spring; and the Reel McCoy Film Society, in partnership with the Friends, which holds fortnightly screenings of classic films in the NLA Theatre. Details of these activities are published in 'What's On' and the Friends Newsletter while the film program is available at the Information Desk in the Foyer of the Library.

The Friends committee is keen to meet the interests of all members and a short on-line survey looking for ideas and feedback from members has been designed. This will be e-mailed to members and Anne urged everyone to complete this.

Anne-Marie Schwirtlich, Director-General of the National Library, also welcomed new members. She detailed some of the many ways in which Friends support the Library, notably through the annual Friends Travelling Fellowship and a major donation to the Oral History Wall. Many Friends are also volunteers, as guides or behind the scenes and it was good to hear how much the Library appreciates the Friends.

After speeches, guests divided into two groups for guided tours: 'behind the scenes', visiting the Preservation areas, to see paper conservation, book-binding etc.; the Main Frame and IT services, so essential for the running of the Library; and the

Petherick Reading Room and the Tube Room. We would like to thank Brendan Dahl (Education), Keith Jeffers (IT) and Robin Tait (Preservation) for all their assistance.

The Friends committee was delighted to see so many new faces and hope that they will soon become 'old Friends' and enjoy the program of events planned for 2013.

Elizabeth Kennedy

### **The Enemark collection of panoramic photographs**



Uncurling the negative and putting it under weights

Thank you to our generous Friends and Volunteers who recently contributed to the Library's end of year appeal, including the project to support the conservation of the Enemark collection of panoramic photographs. We are delighted to announce that over \$66,000 has been raised towards our target of \$90,000 which will support preservation, cataloguing and digitisation of this remarkable collection.

The work of John Enemark, a German immigrant, and Hilda Bridges, who together formed E.B. Studios in Sydney in 1917, includes 496 panoramic views of Sydney and Canberra and scenes of significant cultural and sporting events, such as test matches at the Sydney Cricket Ground in the 1920s and Charles Kingsford Smith's trans-Pacific flight in 1928. Due to the size of the negatives, some up to 3 metres in length, the images typically have a very high information value, documenting important historic details such as signage, architecture, fashion and much else in great detail. The images are of great value to researchers for documentation, publication and exhibition.

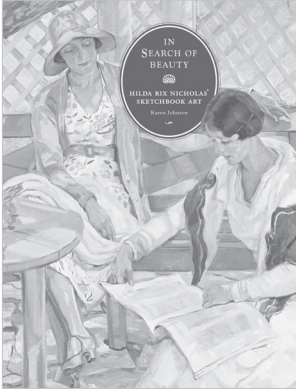
The Enemark collection of panoramic photographs is a high priority conservation project because, without attention, the nitrate photographs will continue to degrade over time and digitisation of this collection is a suitable preservation strategy to ensure their longevity. The negatives are very difficult to access and manage—they are housed in a special nitrate-store offsite and rolled into tight cylinders inside cardboard boxes, and although a listing exists, the collection is not yet fully catalogued which is also an impediment to access.

A fascinating blog has been set up on the Library's Behind the Scenes web page where you can see the preservation work in progress: <http://blogs.nla.gov.au/behind-the-scenes/2012/12/04/the-enemark-project/>. It is fantastic to see that 294 of the 496 items in the collection are now available online, with work scheduled to be completed by the end of September 2013.

Thank you again to our Friends supporters for your contribution towards the Enemark conservation project. If you haven't already, you may still lend your support by contacting the Development Office on 02 6262 1336 or [development@nla.gov.au](mailto:development@nla.gov.au).

We will endeavour to bring you an update on progress with our other conservation project for Proeschel's Atlas, Containing a Map of Australasia (1863) and Maps of Melbourne and Suburbs (1919) in the near future.

Antonia Kasunic



## Lunchtime lecture on the Manuscripts collection of Hilda Rix Nicholas' early sketch books

23 January 2013

Australian Hilda Rix Nicholas (1884–1961) was a prominent early twentieth century woman artist. Born in Ballarat in Victoria, she was educated at Merton Hall, Melbourne, and initially studied art under Frederick McCubbin at the National Gallery of Victoria Art School. Later she travelled to Europe where she furthered her studies and exhibited in Paris and London to great acclaim.

Karen Johnson, manuscript librarian and author of *In Search of Beauty—Hilda Rix Nicholas' Sketchbook Art*, had the audience enraptured as she described the story of Hilda's life and artistic legacy. She came to know and admire Hilda as she worked with Hilda's archive of personal papers held by the National Library. Not only does it contain two sketchbooks, but it also includes journals and letters, newspaper cuttings, exhibition catalogues, photographs, essays and autographical writings.

The first of the sketchbooks dates from Hilda's early life in Melbourne and contains sketches in pencil and charcoal as well as watercolours. The subjects are mostly beautifully dressed and coiffured young women but there are many head studies aimed at developing her skills as a portraitist.

In 1907, after the untimely death of her father Henry Finch Rix, Hilda, her mother Elizabeth and her sister Elsie travelled to Paris so that Hilda could continue her art studies. Hilda was not to know that she would not return to Melbourne until 1918 after the deaths of her mother in 1914 and her sister in 1916.

The second sketchbook, known as the Latin Quarter Sketchbook, dates from Hilda's time in Paris. It contains more sketches, photos, simple watercolours of the Seine, sellers at the bookstalls along the river, and nudes, presumably developed at her art classes. Karen gave us a feeling for the young, enthusiastic artist clearly delighting in the city sights and who achieved acclaim when she exhibited at the prestigious Paris Salon and the Grand Palais.

Karen also read extracts from some of the Hilda's letters to her mother about her experiences in Morocco and showed us the accompanying sketches and watercolours, which were most impressive, showing another side of the artist's talents.

These were just a few of the highlights of the presentation and what a privilege it was to hear about another of the Library's amazing manuscript treasures.

Thank you Karen for sharing your knowledge and experiences of working on this significant personal archive.

Jenny Oates



## ***Pride and Prejudice*: still going strong after two hundred years**

Yes, this immensely popular novel was first published 200 years ago on 27 January 1813, yet it is still a favourite today. Read by millions of people all around the world, it has been published in many editions since 1813 and made into popular movies and television series.

It was a success right from the start but was not her first or her last published novel, as, beginning with *Sense and Sensibility* in 1811, six more of her completed novels were published, amongst other works, and described by Susannah Fullerton, President of the Jane Austen appreciation society of Australia, as 'the six most polished, controlled and elegant social comedies to be found in English' and she claimed that 'Jane Austen is still a very big name today' (<http://susannahfullerton.com.au/>). Dr Susannah Helman of the National Library commented that the famous author's 'biting wit, use of irony, depth of perception and the beautiful way she used the English language ... makes her the ultimate stylist'.

Naturally, the National Library has an extensive collection of Austen's works including the second volume of the first edition of *Mansfield Park* as well as works about Austen plus a library Treasure—a handwritten letter from Jane to her sister Cassandra in 1799 which was recently exhibited in the Treasures Gallery. Even though covering mostly domestic and family matters, the letter reveals Jane's masterly writing skills as well as a flavour of the times and the interests of the family.

All of which goes to show why Austen's work has remained popular for two hundred years and will probably go on being read for many years to come.

Sylvia Marchant



### **The Reel McCoy Film Society at the National Library**

Some of you may have noticed an increasing number of people gathering in the downstairs theatre on Wednesday evenings, from 6pm, and have wondered who they are.

Well, they are the Reel McCoy Film Society and their screenings are free to members of the Film Society, and to Friends of the NLA.

The Reel McCoy, which has been screening films in Canberra since 1990, is one of many film societies across Australia, created by film enthusiasts who do their best to pass on their love of cinema. Originally screening at the National Film and Sound Archive, the Society has been screening at the NLA since 2010.

The President of the Society is James Sandry. James says that the facilities at the NLA are first rate. 'It is a beautiful cinema and we love presenting movies here.'

'We run programs each year from February through November, every second Wednesday evening from 6pm. We show a mix of classics, popular and arthouse films. We try to screen a couple of Australian films each year and movies from all the over the world. We have two main aims: one, to pass on our love of the art-form by presenting quality cinema. And two, to enjoy. 'Each screening is introduced by one of the members to provide the audience with interesting background to the film. And afterwards, we have tea, coffee and nibbles outside the theatre, so that people can talk. We pride ourselves on being the friendliest film society around.'

So what is coming up at the Reel McCoy?

'We kicked off the year on February 6 with a beautiful Ealing Studios comedy, *The Man in the White Suit* (1951) with Alec Guinness. On 20 February we will be showing the original version of *Carrie* (1976), followed by some gripping film noir, *They Live by Night* (1949) and *Thieves like Us* (1974). Then, over the next six months we will be showing films by such famous directors as Jean Renoir, Ernst Lubitsch and David Lean, as well as films from Hong Kong, West Germany and Australia.'

There are programs available to be picked up at the front desk in the NLA foyer. He invites all Friends to drop in and enjoy a relaxing, fun night at the movies.

James Sandry



### **Members of NLA Friends On-line survey**

The Friends Committee is committed to providing an engaging program of events and activities that interest its members. To assist the Committee in developing future programs, we would like to hear from members about what you are looking for, and so we have developed a short on-line survey seeking your ideas and feedback.

The survey will take only a few minutes of your time to complete and will inform the calendar of events for 2013 and beyond. The survey will be emailed to all members before the end of March and we are really looking forward to your responses.

We encourage you to participate in this survey to let us know what you think about the range of Events and Member benefits made available to you.

Jenny Oates



## UPCOMING EVENTS

Bookings for all Friends events may be made through the Friends Office on 02 6262 1698 or by emailing friends@nla.gov.au. Ticket payments may be made over the phone at the same number. Cheque payments, made payable to 'The Friends of the National Library of Australia', should be posted to Friends of the National Library, National Library of Australia, Canberra ACT 2600. Cash payments may be dropped off at the National Library bookshop during opening hours, and must be delivered in an unsealed envelope, with details of your name, the event and the dollar amount written on the envelope. These will then be passed on to the Friends Office.

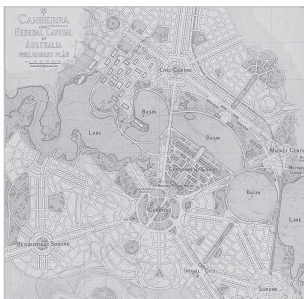
### Autumn tour: Sydney Writer's Festival

#### A Reminder

There are still some places left for the Friends weekend in Sydney on 25 and 26 May to attend the Sydney Writers Festival, Australia's largest annual celebration of literature and ideas. Accommodation is close to the Harbour, right in the heart of the Rocks, and in easy reach of Walsh Bay, a major venue. The tour includes return coach travel, lunch at the Trust Café, Observatory Hill, 4-star accommodation including a full buffet breakfast and dinner, at the Wharf restaurant at Walsh Bay. The itinerary allows for guests to choose from the many events offered, those that are of the most interest to them. Cost varies depending from \$325 to \$455 for members and \$335 to \$475 for non members, depending on the type of accommodation required. If you are interested in joining us please contact Sarah Jaensch, Friends Office on 62621551 or sjaensch@nla.gov.au

#### Spring Tour

There will also be a Spring Tour to a new and different destination, in September. This will be announced over the coming months. These tours are all very popular and I urge you to book as early as possible to secure your place.



Griffin, Walter Burley, 1876-1937.  
Canberra Federal Capital of  
Australia preliminary plan ??

### *The Dream of a Century: the Griffins in Australia's Capital*

8 March 2013 to 10 June 2013

An exciting exhibition for Canberra's 100th anniversary opens at the library on 8 March 2013. The exhibition celebrates the work of Canberra's original designers, Walter Burley Griffin and Marion Mahony Griffin, the primary drivers of Canberra's design and layout—which they developed from their home in wintry Chicago in 1911 for submission to the Federal Capital Competition.

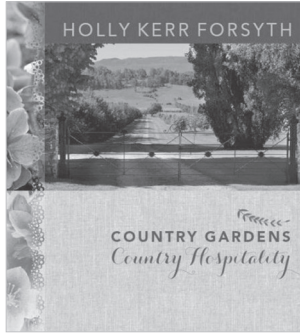
The exhibition focuses on the Griffin design enterprise in Canberra and showcases materials drawn from the Eric Milton Nicholls Collection of the office records of the couple's practice in the USA, Australia and India and which the Library acquired in 2006. Eric Milton Nicholls was Griffin's Australian partner.

This significant collection includes original drawings, silk paintings, maps, photographs and ephemera relating to the Griffins' work, most of which has never before been displayed and which gives a more profound understanding of the work of the Griffins.

Interest in the Griffins and their legacy has been growing over the past 10–20 years. Like Jørn Utzon and the Sydney Opera House, the Griffins met with significant opposition, and though Griffin began in October 1913 as the Federal Capital Director of Design and Construction, he left disillusioned in 1920 after seven controversial years.

Whether as a Canberran familiar with many elements of the Griffin's vision, or a visitor whose only experience is disorientation whilst navigating through the street layout in Canberra's inner suburbs, the exhibition offers new and intriguing insights into the vision of the city's designers.

The exhibition was curated by Christopher Vernon from the University of Western Australia, who has studied and written at length about the Griffins and their work.



### **Country Gardens, Country Hospitality**

Author talk by Dr Holly Kerr-Forsyth

**Sunday 24 March 2013, 2 pm**

Conference Room followed by afternoon tea in the foyer.

Much loved gardening writer and photographer Holly Kerr-Forsyth will talk about her new book, *Country Gardens, Country Hospitality*.

The book reflects her travels across Australia, revealing the landscapes she loves: the soaring mountains, the stunning coastline, the wide plains. Holly has visited gardens of note, in subtropical, temperate, alpine and arid regions, ranging from newly established gardens to those that have evolved over generations. At each stop, over a meal hosted by the owner, the stories behind the garden are told, their distinctive features and history revealed.

The book is published by Mergunyah Press.

Cost: \$10 Friends, \$15 non-Friends

### **FRIENDS BOOK CLUB**

A monthly literary discussion for Friends members.

**Tuesday 26 March**

*The Hare with Amber Eyes* by Edmund du Waal

**Tuesday 30 April**

*Flight Behaviour* by Barbara Kingsolver

**Tuesday 28 May**

*The Reluctant Fundamentalist* by Mohsin Hamid

7 pm

Friends Lounge, free for members

Details: [nla.gov.au/friends](http://nla.gov.au/friends) or 02 6262 1698



### **FREE FILM SCREENINGS**

In association with the Reel McCoy Film Society, the Friends present fortnightly film screenings exclusively for members of both organisations.

Every second Wednesday, 6 pm

Theatre, free

Program: [nla.gov.au/friends](http://nla.gov.au/friends) or call 02 6262 1698

Full details of these movies can be viewed online at

[www.nla.gov.au/events](http://www.nla.gov.au/events) or call 02 6262 1698 for further information

Bookings not required.

### **SPECIAL FRIENDS OFFER**

The Canberra International Music Festival is offering Friends discounted tickets.

Visit [www.cimf.org.au](http://www.cimf.org.au) from 8 March for program and ticketing information.



### ONLINE BOOKSHOP OFFER

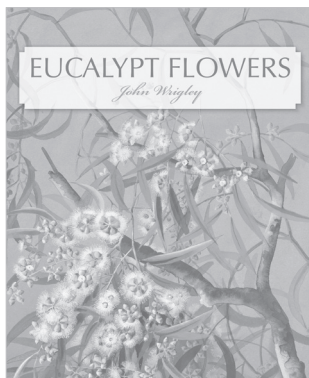
In conjunction with the Library's Bookshop, the Friends are pleased to announce a special offer for members who make a purchase using the National Library's online bookshop.

For any purchase made by a Friend between 1 March and 31 May 2013, they will receive a free Gostelow Card Pack, showcasing exquisite wildflower images by Ebenezer Edward Gostelow, all which are found in the National Library's collections. This is an excellent offer for Friends, as this item retails for \$24.95. This offer is in addition to the usual Friends discount and any other offers advertised on the Library Bookshop website.

To claim your free Gostelow Card Pack and a 15 per cent discount with all online purchases, use the promotional code FR15MAR13 at checkout. This code is valid from 1 March–31 May 2013.

### Eucalypt Flowers

By John Wrigley



Eucalypts are an icon of the Australian environment and it is perhaps not surprising that we have produced an abundance of talented artists that have appreciated their beauty and form. In addition botanists have found eucalypts a challenging pursuit and in studying them they have called on the artist's talents to illustrate their structure. This book portrays both the skills of the botanical artist as well as those that simply see the exquisite splendour of the blossoms and the intriguing shape of the gumnuts. From the time Sir Joseph Banks, on Cook's epic voyage in 1770 collected specimens for the ship's artist, Sydney Parkinson, to the present day highly awarded artist Margaret Stones, eucalypts have fascinated painters and the general public. Over this 250 year period, the various styles are represented in this volume showing species from the arid interior to the tropics and the uniquely shaped and colourful plants from the south-west of Western Australia. The Australian wildlife is not forgotten as the parrots and honeyeaters that feed on the eucalypt blossoms are beautifully depicted by Ebenezer Gostelow.

ISBN 978-0-642-27767-1

2013, pb, 233 x 284 mm, 160 pp

RRP \$34.99

### Canberra: Then and Now

By Geoff Page

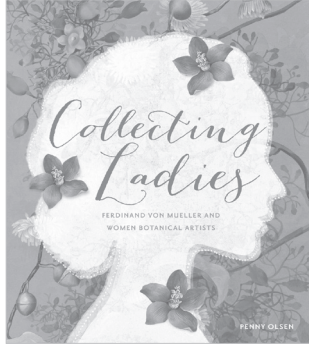


*Canberra: Then and Now* takes you on a visual journey from the city's birth to the current day with photographs from the National Library of Australia. The historical images charmingly illustrate Canberra's early years, while specially commissioned contemporary photographs reveal how the sights and scenes have changed (or remained the same) over time. Featuring an introduction to Canberra's history by Dr Peter Dowling from the National Trust, a fascinating memoir and original poems by local writer Geoff Page and enhanced by the memories of long-established Canberra residents, *Canberra: Then and Now* is a nostalgic and illuminating insight into the community of Canberra—as it was then and as it is now.

ISBN 978-0-642-27768-8

2013, pb, 250 x 240 mm, 124 pp

RRP \$39.99



## Collecting Ladies: Ferdinand von Mueller and His Women Botanical Illustrators

By Penny Olsen

*What trouble would it be to collect and preserve flowers, and enclose in an envelope to their destination? How many ladies might devote a few leisure hours to this pursuit?*

Ferdinand von Mueller, 1872

Around 1870, Ferdinand von Mueller (1825–1896), the greatest Australian botanist of the nineteenth century, began to advertise in several newspapers across Australia for 'lady' plant collectors. While only about ten per cent of Mueller's astounding 3,000-strong network of collectors were women, this was extraordinary at a time when women typically had little recourse to science or contact with men outside their circle of friends.

The profiles and artwork of 14 of Mueller's coterie of women collectors are presented in *Collecting Ladies*. Included are Fanny Charsley, Louisa Atkinson, Annie Walker and Ellis Rowan for whom Mueller made time to assist in pursuit of their own botanical passions. He identified the plants they painted and provided letters of introduction to publishers and scientists. Louisa Anne Meredith had her own literary career but was honoured by Mueller with what she called an 'immortelle', an everlasting daisy. Fanny De Mole, Margaret Forrest, Rosa Fiveash, Gertrude Lovegrove, Harriet and Helena Scott all benefited from the milieu Mueller created. Together, these ladies produced some of the most beautiful books and botanical art in Australia in the nineteenth century, covering all the Australian colonies.

Penny Olsen is a research scientist and natural history writer. Based at the Australian National University in Canberra, she is the author of *Glimpses of Paradise: The Quest for the Beautiful Parrakeet* (2007), *Brush with Birds: Bird Art in the National Library of Australia* (2008) and *Upside Down World: Early European Impressions of Australia's Curious Animals* (2010).

ISBN 978-0-642-27753-4

2013, 250 x 220 mm, 248 pp

RRP \$39.99