

Medical History

Newsletter

AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND SOCIETY OF THE HISTORY OF MEDICINE INC

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THE PRESIDENT'S PAGE

At the 44th Congress of the International Society of the History of Medicine in Tbilisi, Georgia, the annual general meeting of national delegates, formally considered the offer from the ANZSHM to host the next meeting in Sydney in conjunction with our 14th Biennial Conference. The offer was enthusiastically accepted and the ISHM are now engaged with the planning group for the Sydney conference to make the arrangements. National delegates and through them ISHM members were also invited to take part in our conference. Several said to me they intended to present papers. From this we anticipate a more international atmosphere for our conference.

The ISHM has, over the past few years, striven to become more internationally relevant. There are now many national medical history organisations and increasing numbers of specialist groups. The ISHM is shifting from its historic European base and holding meetings with a wider range of bodies. Last year Mexico, this year Georgia, next year Australia, and possibly after that Argentina and then Costa Rica. The ISHM publishes each year a peer-reviewed journal, *Vesalius*, as well as an electronic newsletter. Next year the journal will be published as an e-journal with considerable cost savings. These savings are being passed on to members with a reduced membership fee. It is now 25 Euros and if you subscribe for two years (50 Euros) the third year will be free! If you are interested in becoming a member go to the ISHM website, then to membership and then to the online membership form. Paying the membership is a bit messy and I am happy to help there. Get in touch (bandreid@bigpond.com) and I will take you through an easier path.

The conference was very interesting with members and papers from the region dominating: Eastern Europe, Russia, the Balkans, Turkey, and Greece. It was a delight to hear histories of these regions which were very unfamiliar to me. This year marks 500 years since the birth of the anatomist Andreas Vesalius. There was a special issue of the ISHM journal to commemorate this event and there were several conference papers highlighting the rich tradition of anatomical scholarship in Eastern Europe. There was a

particularly interesting paper by a Russian nurse historian on the role of Russian nurses on the front line in the Crimean war. Many served, and not just in field hospitals well behind the line. The breakup of the Russian Empire has seen a renewed interest in history and intellectual endeavours by the affected states and this provided a strong background to the conference.



The National Museum of Georgia is magnificent with a richly presented exhibition on the Byzantine era and a rather grim and detailed exhibition of the Russian Occupation. I found the pre-Byzantine exhibitions particularly interesting. There are many archaeological sites in Georgia, long a cross-roads, and from them have come worked gold in an extraordinary range. It is a tribute to Georgian conservators that these priceless relics have survived the waves of occupation that Georgia has had to endure.

For an outing the organisers took us to the north east of Tbilisi to the province of Kakheti in the foothills of the mountains and to its capital Telavi. This is the centre of Georgia's wine region. There we had an excellent meal, in which very good local cheeses played a prominent part, and sampled some of their fine wines. There are many monasteries in this area and after the conference my wife and I were able to return to one of them, David Gareja. This monastery dates back to the sixth century and is set in barren rugged country on the edge of a long high cliff. With the aid of our guide I slithered across the face of this cliff (perilously in my view) to look at some beautiful early Christian frescoes in hand carved caves. Behind me eagles glided slowly up the heat waves of the cliff. A memorable experience for many reasons and a memorable conference.

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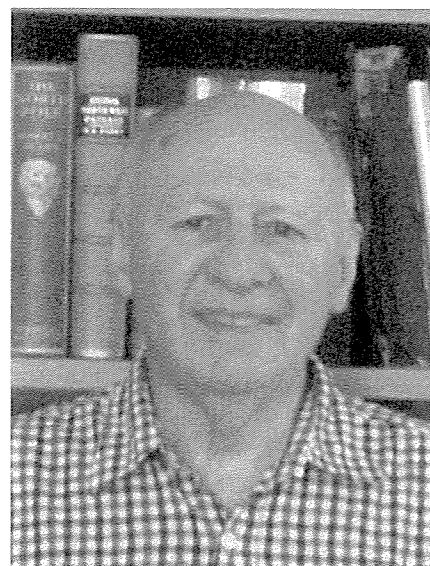
ALL ABOUT OURSELVES

Members of the ANZSHM describe their life, work and interests

At school I only liked two subjects - chemistry and history. This was reflected in a most unbalanced report card! My 'day job' as a clinical immunologist captured my interest in molecules, while my extracurricular passions of historic cartography and medical history relate to that long term interest in 'what went before' and my view that such informs the future.

As a first year medical student I was captivated by the 'idea' of Burnett's 'forbidden clone and autoimmunity'. I was hooked and never once considered any other career path. I completed a PhD in autoimmunity, followed by four years with John Bienenstock at McMaster University where I established a clinical immunology service and began a research career in mucosal immunology. After two years at Sydney's Royal Prince Alfred Hospital I was appointed to the Foundation Chair of Pathology at Newcastle University where I would spend 25 years combining all my medical interests. I studied host-parasite relationships in disease, and developed a vaccine for patients with chronic lung disease, not realising these research areas would predict my later involvement in biotechnology, and passion for medical history.

My earliest memory was collecting round stones! I was educated when public education was most desirable and '5B's' got you into your course of choice. This fostered a marvellous period of collecting everything from stamps to snakes in bottles, with never a thought about life after school. It was such a great time! How life has changed - kids now pay to train for IQ tests! Day one at university we were told to look both sides as next year one (at



least) of your neighbours would not be there. An unfortunate truth that seriously impeded my collecting addiction. I was lucky at the end of first year to be chosen as one of two scouts to travel to Antarctica with a relief ship - a stimulus for a life-long interest in Antarctica with 15 trips for research and as a lecturer on tour ships.

Luck and people catalyse nascent opportunities in life. I was introduced to antique maps by Ken Ker-shaw, a Professor of Botany at McMaster, an interest that soon expanded, encouraged by so many wonderful people such as Helen Wallis (Head of the map room at the British Library). Back in Sydney and with my wife Christine, I ran an international conference for the International Map Collector's Society and became its international secretary. Medical history is more difficult to define as it has always been an interest. It became focussed when Christine and I were asked by Chris Wood, founder of Australians Studying Abroad, to run a History of Medicine and Pharmacy tour in 2006. We constructed a tour from Venice to London, travelling 'through time' from Renaissance to Modern, following the course of the Black Death. We do our fourth trip next year. This stimulated my interest in the impact of epidemics through history, their cause and effects. I found that Colonial Australia was a fertile field of great relevance. I could even combine my interests in cartography with Australian medical history. I had been invited on to the Library Committee of the Royal Australian College of Physicians, and saw a great opportunity to create a course in medical history for the interested. A promising start with Clair Hooker sadly is stalled through lack of interest in the College, caught up in the current problems of management and vision, which hopefully will be soon resolved. My proudest moments were being awarded membership to the Order Of Australia for contributions to both Immunology and Historic Cartography, and an inaugural honorary fellowship by the Library Council of NSW. The strangest is reading in Auction catalogues 'not in Clancy'.

What next? I am breathless trying to keep up, but there are goals: to see my vaccine improving the health of those with COPD, to develop better models for biotechnology in Australia, to promote education in historic cartography (with the State Library) and medical history (hopefully with a medical history course for the interested), to continue organising 'history tourism' (next a trip to the original Spice Islands, that underpinned the greatest changes in world history. I may even find time to catalogue my maps. What have I learnt? A lot, but if something is important and worth doing, like the frog being swallowed by a pelican and with its hands around the bird's neck, 'NEVER EVER GIVE UP'.

Robert Clancy AM
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MEMBERS' NEWS

Welcome!

Jan Coles (VIC)

Ruth Johnson (WA)

Elizabeth Roberts-Pedersen (NSW)

Andrew Watkins (VIC)

Vale

Dr Humphry Cramond (QLD), d. 15 March 2014

Dr James Martin (VIC), d. 27 March 2014

Mrs Lucy Lane (VIC), d. August 2014

Prof Ross Jeremy (NSW), d. 23 September 2014

Congratulations

At the recent History of Science Society meeting in Chicago, Warwick Anderson received the 2014 Derek Price/Rod Webster Award, which acknowledges excellence in a research article published in *Isis*, the flagship journal of the History of Science Society, over the past three years. The award was for 'Hybridity, race, and science: The voyage of the *Zaca*, 1934-35', *Isis*, 2012, 103: 229-53. The article examined the work of American physical anthropologists in Polynesia, notably Harry Shapiro's observations of Marquesans and Pitcairn Islanders.

On 17 October 2014 Peter Hobbins received the University of Sydney's Rita and John Cornforth Medal for PhD Achievement, for his 2013 thesis, 'Venom and vivisection in the colonial antipodes 1788-1914'.

Congratulations to Barry Bryant who has recently completed his PhD thesis entitled 'Apprenticeship to degree: the co-evolution of twentieth-century pharmacy practice and education from a Queensland and regional perspective', at the Central Queensland University.

**FOR ADDITIONAL DETAILS
ON THE 2015 BIENNIAL
CONFERENCE
SEE NSW BRANCH NEWS-
LETTER ON PAGE 7.**

THE AAHM AGM

The report of the 86th annual meeting of the American Association for the History of Medicine, and the minutes of the AGM held in May 2014, offer food for thought.

Topics of interest to our members included fluctuating membership and revamping the website. Attendance at our biennial conferences compares well with the 350 registrants attracted to Atlanta in 2013.

Of the 350 Atlanta attendees, only 6 percent were 'MDs' but there was detailed discussion of the processes put in place at the conference to enable these individuals to claim credits for continuing medical education. Perhaps the ANZSHM should consider a similar approach to increase the number of active clinicians attending our meetings?

EDITOR'S COLUMN

Contributions to the Newsletter are always welcome. The next deadline for copy is 15 February 2015. Copy should be sent to the editor, Derek A Dow at d.dow@auckland.ac.nz or, if you prefer snail mail, 62 Koraha St, Auckland 1050, NZ.

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AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND SOCIETY
OF THE HISTORY OF MEDICINE

Missions, Methods and Management
14th Biennial Conference

Australian Catholic University, North Sydney

Tuesday 30 June - Friday 3 July 2015

Saturday 4 July - optional Quarantine Station excursion

AMPI NEWS

Before Eureka: Colonial Doctors on the California Goldfields

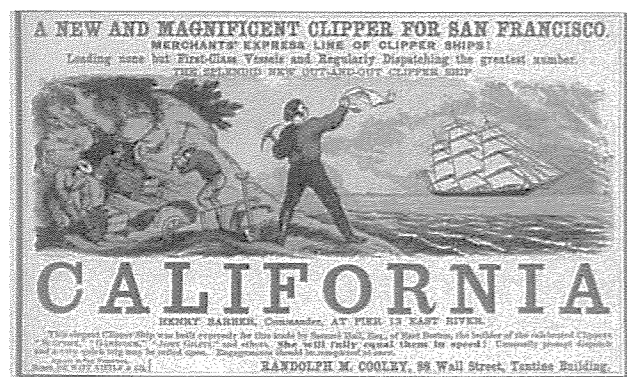
Gold was discovered in California in 1848, three years before the start of the gold rushes in New South Wales and Victoria. About forty doctors in the AMPI file are known to have travelled from Australia to California between 1848 and 1851 - braving the dangers of lynch law, wild animals and hostile Indians to seek professional opportunities there, or to try their hand as prospectors.

Most of these men returned in due course, in many cases to establish themselves on the new Australian goldfields. Adoniah Vallack, for example, after twelve years in New South Wales, and three years in California, returned in 1852 to practise at Ballarat.

Other veterans of California returning to practise on the goldfields of Victoria included Richard Bunce, who had been in Adelaide in the 1840s, and Henry Acheson Montgomery, who had originally registered in New South Wales. Dr Bunce settled at Ballarat, and Dr Montgomery at Castlemaine.

A prominent figure on the Bendigo and Ovens goldfields was John Downes Owens, who came out to Sydney in 1850 and visited South America and California in 1851, before settling in Victoria in 1852. He became an outstanding advocate for miners' rights, and a Member of the Victorian Parliament.

Some of the doctors who went to California never returned to Australia. A few settled in America or returned to the UK, but for others the adventure ended in tragedy. Such was the fate of Frederick Bastone, who married in Sydney in 1849 and went to California, where he teamed up with Dr Bunce. However he lost everything in a fire that destroyed much of the city of San Francisco in May 1850, and died there in September of that year, aged 32 (the cause of death was not reported).



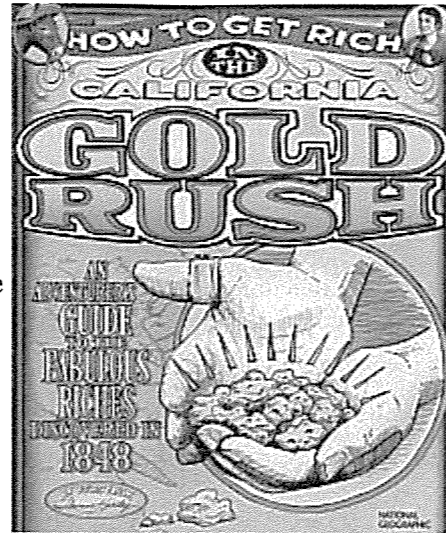
Tragedy also befell John Higginbottom, who came out to Adelaide in charge of immigrants in 1849. He went on to Sydney and from there sailed as surgeon on a ship to California. His movements on arrival are obscure, but his death in 1851 was reported in a Sacramento newspaper - his body had been found in a remote forest clearing with an Indian arrow through the skull.

A number of doctors who went out from Australia to California stayed there and pursued successful careers on the far side of the Pacific. They included Samuel Maberly, who had been a GP in New South Wales for ten years before he went to California in 1849. He later moved to South America and settled at Santiago, obtaining a degree from the University of Chile in 1854.

Another who went from Sydney and settled in California was Robert Kennedy Nuttall MD. He had arrived in New South Wales in 1849 and not long afterwards left for San Francisco. There he went into partnership with Robert McIntosh, late of Sydney, formerly of Port Stephens. They conducted their practice from a tent on the beach, and became foundation members of the San Francisco Medical Association (in its first incarnation, established 1850). Together with Thomas Bennett MD, who had also been in Sydney in 1849, Nuttall and McIntosh joined a handful of UK graduates whose names are to be found on an early (1858) medical register of the State of California.

In 1854 Dr Nuttall married Magdalena Parrott, the daughter of a San Francisco banker. His six children included Zelia, who became an expert in Mexican antiquities, and George, who became a Cambridge (UK) Professor of Biology. He was in Europe 1865-1876, but then returned to California, where he died in 1881. The subsequent history of Dr McIntosh is unknown to AMPI. Dr Bennett is believed to have died in California sometime in the 1850s.

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New Zealand & Californian Gold *Journal of Medical Biography*

New Zealand too had its optimistic medics, who tried their luck on the Californian gold fields, apparently with limited or no success. Samuel Maberly, mentioned in the AMPI column, had spent time in northern New Zealand in 1842-3, between stints in NSW. In August 1843 the *Sydney Morning Herald* published a letter from Maberly analysing black oxide of manganese, a response to current interest in the 'mineral productions of New Zealand'. It is unclear if this knowledge was of any help to Maberly in his Californian adventure.

Maberly's interests mirrored those of Dr Henry Weekes, surgeon in 1841 aboard one of the first immigrant ships to New Plymouth. Weekes too conducted mineral research, comparing New Zealand's resources with his previous findings in Chile. Weekes travelled back and forth between Australia, England and New Zealand in the 1840s before heading to California in 1849. By 1850 he was back in New Zealand once again, as battalion surgeon to the Auckland Militia. As an ardent teetotaler, Weekes was an unlikely candidate for the boisterous gold mining fraternity - though his BMJ obituary suggests he may not have lingered there since he spent much of his time in Los Angeles from 1848 to 1853 treating arrow wounds.

James Corse, a Londoner, had been licensed by the Reformed Medical College of New York in 1852 and arrived on the Otago goldfields about a decade later. It is unknown what he had done during the intervening years but while acting as coroner for Cromwell he ran a number of gold mining syndicates until he became firmly established in practice. Was Corse's use of wing dams and California pumps a legacy of time spent on the Californian diggings?

Another Otago doctor, Peter Stewart, had spent many years on the Californian goldfields prior to graduating in medicine from Glasgow in 1872, aged around 45. His studies were funded by the money accumulated by Peter and his brother, who died of sunstroke while engaged in mining.

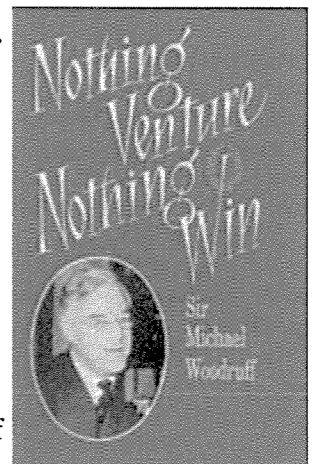
The most poignant New Zealand-California connection, however, was that of George Home, who began his medical studies at Otago and graduated from Edinburgh in 1892, aged 22. Home had been born in San Francisco while his parents pursued a dream of gold. Seemingly unsuccessful in this quest, they returned to Auckland in 1870 where his father slipped off the wharf while disembarking and was drowned. It was a sad homecoming.

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The internet is a seductive tool for historians. We begin searching for one thing and frequently end up on an altogether different quest. It was just such happenstance which drew my attention once again to the *Journal of Medical Biography*, published by the Royal Society of Medicine. My last contact had been in 2005, when I informed the editor of the death of Rex Wright-St Clair, a stalwart of the ASHM (as we then were) and a regular contributor to the *JMB*. One of Rex's last publications, 'New Zealand medical biography in mass' appeared in August 2005, six months after his death.

With my appetite whetted, I trawled through the online issues from 2009-14, a swift and painless task when one need travel no further than the dining room table. The outcome was a handful of references to Australia and New Zealand, many of which would not routinely come to our attention.

In February 2011, Winston Leigh wrote about Sir Michael Woodruff who early in his career had been a surgical tutor in Sheffield, England, where Leigh was a GP. Woodruff's father had emigrated from England to Melbourne in 1913 two years after Michael's birth, as professor of bacteriology. Following postgraduate experience in the UK, Woodruff was professor of surgery in Dunedin from 1953-6 before accepting a similar post in Edinburgh, where he pioneered renal transplants.



Woodruff's 1996 autobiography adopted the same title as that used by Sir Edmund Hillary in 1975

In August 2013 Richard Griffiths, coincidentally a former consultant plastic surgeon in Sheffield, examined the career of the New Zealander Arthur Mowlem, one of three Kiwis - along with Harold Gillies and Archibald McIndoe - to shape the development of British plastic surgery over the course of two world wars. (I was especially intrigued by Griffiths' article since I had written about the three men in one of my *New Zealand Doctor* vignettes in 2005.)

(contd on p6)

On a related theme, Barbara Hawgood, who had previously contributed an article on Sir William Liley, the Auckland professor who carried out the first intrauterine blood transfusion, published a piece in February 2014 entitled 'Professor David Poswillo CBE (1927–2003): Skilled oral and maxillofacial surgeon, influential scientist, teacher and adviser'. Poswillo, whose name I had never before come across, was an Otago Dental School graduate who successively held chairs in teratology at the Royal College of Surgeons of England 1969–77, and in oral surgery at Adelaide (1977–9) and London (1979–92). Poswillo also chaired the 1994 Scientific Committee on Tobacco and Health, which highlighted the dangers of passive smoking.

There is one final, albeit obscure, New Zealand connection in Alice Cruse's 'The diary of Alice Maud Batt (1889–1969)', published in November 2010, although this is never mentioned in the text. Alice Batt, a VAD nurse in World War One, was the daughter of Dr Charles Barrington Batt, whose family provided five generations of surgeons to the Oxfordshire town of Whitney from 1713 until 1926. Batt's brother, Dr Edward, practised in Christchurch from 1862 but was forced to return to the UK in 1864 because of ill-health. Ironically, Charles then sailed twice to New Zealand as a ship's surgeon in the early 1870s, as a way of dealing with a breakdown in health. Unlike Edward, he did not stay.

One of the most prolific recent contributors to the JMB is the ANZSHM's John Pearn, who since 2011 has published no fewer than 7 articles. These cover topics as diverse as medieval physicians, medical recipients of the Victoria Cross, precision in thermometry, and medical biography on stamps. Two of the 7 have a specific bearing on Australia - 'Medical memorials in Antarctica; (November 2012) which is one of the outcomes of our 2011 conference in Brisbane, and 'Professor Tyndale John Rendle-Short (1919–2010), British and Australian paediatrician: A life in two domains', which appeared in the May 2014 issue.

VICTORIA BRANCH NEWS

Country meeting at Hamilton

The MHSV has a tradition of holding a 'country meeting' every two years. This year, we ventured to the city of Hamilton, centre of the Western District and home to a vibrant arts and historical community. The meeting on 4 October attracted over 50 delegates. Delegates and speakers included a number of locals, as well as many who undertook the four-hour drive from Melbourne.

Having arrived in Hamilton on Friday afternoon, we were privileged to enjoy a reception at Correagh, a historic pastoral property just a few kilometers from the city. Correagh was built in 1855,

and the original building remains largely intact, carefully preserved by our generous host, Wes Rogers, and his family. Situated on a rise overlooking a lake and vast fertile countryside, we enjoyed a balmy evening, made all the more special by hearing Wes describe some of the many stories associated with the property.



Members and guest listening attentively to Wes Rogers. Even the dog is all ears!

On the Saturday, the Hamilton Base Hospital hosted the meeting in superb lecture facilities. There were nine presentations, covering a wide range of health-related history. The delegates received all with great enthusiasm. We also had the opportunity to visit the architecturally outstanding TB sanatorium, and a marvellous 'history walk' that had been prepared by Elizabeth Arthur to tell the story of the hospital. Elizabeth, who practices at Hamilton Base Hospital, runs an art gallery and is a keen member of the MHSV committee (among many other things).

In the evening, we enjoyed dinner at the historic Hamilton Club. Members and guests were treated to a fascinating talk by local historian, Bernard Wallace, on 'Hamilton and the Western Victorian Separation Movement of 1861–1863'. This was the story of the short-lived attempt to create an independent colony, comprising the western region of Victoria and the eastern part of South Australia.

The 2014 MHSV country meeting was hailed as a great success, and many thanks are due to Elizabeth Arthur for making it happen. She was ably assisted by our president, Madonna Grehan.

November meeting

On 12 November, the final meeting of the MHSV for 2014 was held at Kooyong Tennis Club. Dr David Noonan presented a fascinating talk entitled 'Those we forget: Recounting Australian casualties of the First World War'. He questioned the conventional counting of casualties of this conflict, explaining how official numbers do not reflect the real impact of the war on the country, its soldiers, or on the soldiers' families.

NSW BRANCH NEWS

Surviving the zombie apocalypse

On 18 September a small but smiling contingent of ANZSHM members enjoyed a special presentation at the University of New South Wales Museum of Human Diseases. Hosted by curator Derek Williamson, the evening included two presentations and a chance to explore the museum's excellent presentation of specimens – with zombie highlights.

Designed primarily as an outreach measure to connect pathology with non-medical audiences, the museum's tagline is 'know your enemy'. The museum has been hosting school groups for the past 20 years and the special exhibition 'Surviving the zombie apocalypse' has attracted over 10,000 students through 2014.

During his presentation, Derek used a variety of the museum's preparations to illustrate the top 20 causes of death among Australians, noting that suicide heads the list for those aged 14–45. He added that although cancers comprise half of the overall causes of premature death, certain types receive disproportionately high – or low – levels of research funding. But as a means of encouraging prevention, the main avoidable killers are 'tobacco smoke, fat, sloth, sugar, sun, alcohol, silence and fear'. Derek surprised many by stating that a 'binge' is now defined as 3 standard drinks – two stubbies of beer or two generous glasses of wine.

Switching to life after death, biomedical researcher Luke Hesson elaborated his rather ghoulish passion for the science of zombies and explored the biological characteristics necessary for a disease to qualify as zombiism. This condition has been formally, if satirically, defined as ANSD: ataxic neurodegenerative satiety deficiency syndrome. Most of the signs and symptoms could be explained by brain dysfunction, including ataxia (cerebellum), aggression (amygdala), ravenous hunger (hypothalamus) and instinctive behaviour (brainstem).

The prospect of novel diseases emerging via mutation, or being released from permafrost via global warming, required consideration of possibly unprecedented combinations of effects.

When mathematicians have modelled zombie outbreaks according to established principles, most of the population die within four days. The Zombie Research Society has determined a countdown of the safest places on earth with regard to population density, natural resources and firearms. Their top candidates were: 3 – USA; 2 – Canada; 1 – Australia! On this hopeful note we thanked Derek and Luke, and explored the exhibition.

The Museum of Human Disease offers an extensive but very accessible range of specimens, balancing samples with interpretation. Several senior and well-travelled ANZSHM members considered this one of the finest pathology museums they have seen worldwide. Although only loosely related to our Society's remit, the exhibition and presentations suggest ways forward for engaging, entertaining and educating museum visitors – a lesson that we were grateful to enjoy.

ANZSHM Biennial Conference, Sydney 30 June–4 July 2015

The call for abstracts for our 2015 conference has now opened: please visit our website at www.dconferences.com.au/hom2015 to register your interest or submit your proposal. In addition to 100 presentation slots, the meeting also features plenaries by Professor Linda Bryder, Professor Stephen Garton and Dr Simon Chaplin, head of London's Wellcome Library. In addition to our witness seminar on 'Changes in the administration of hospital services, 1970–2015', we now have an impressive and enjoyable range of presentations and tours planned for the optional Quarantine Station excursion and the pre-conference medical history walk.

Largely through the efforts of ANZSHM President Brian Reid and our national executive, the conference will also host the 2015 meeting of the International Society for the History of Medicine. Additional partnerships include satellite meetings and/or conference streams on nursing, psychiatry and oral history.

In order to ensure our overall finances and hence set registration fees, seeking sponsors remains a key goal for the coming months. If you have contacts in relevant fields including health administration, publishing, medicolegal practice or other professional bodies interested in the history of health, please provide contact details to our sponsorship coordinator, Charmaine Robson, charmaine@robson.tel or 0412 721 222.

ANZSHM-NSW AGM – 4 February 2015

The AGM will be held at the Kirribilli Club and will be followed by dinner and our guest speaker, psychiatrist and author Dr Robert Kaplan, who has offered a talk entitled 'Was Hitler Ill?: A reply to Eberle and Neumann'. The AGM also offers the opportunity for members to join the NSW executive committee and contribute ideas and skills to running our Society. A formal call for nominations will be released approximately a month prior to the AGM.

Enquiries/RSVP for all events to Peter Hobbins, peter_hobbins@bigpond.com or 0418 277 827.

BLAST FROM THE PAST

Medical History Australia 25 years ago

The front page of the November 1989 newsletter was devoted to a synopsis of the therapeutic use of psychiatric art, prompted by the existence of 'The Australian Collection of Psychiatric Art'. My curiosity was piqued by the lack of any reference to individuals resident in Australia, whether connected with the collection or not. Europeans and Americans were mentioned, but that was all.

Some elementary research (think nothing of it, Watson) revealed that these holdings, which have grown from around 8,000 paintings and other artefacts in 1989 to a current figure in excess of 15,000, are now known as the Cunningham Dax Collection, after the original owner. It has been claimed that there are only two other collections of comparable size worldwide, in Heidelberg and Lausanne.

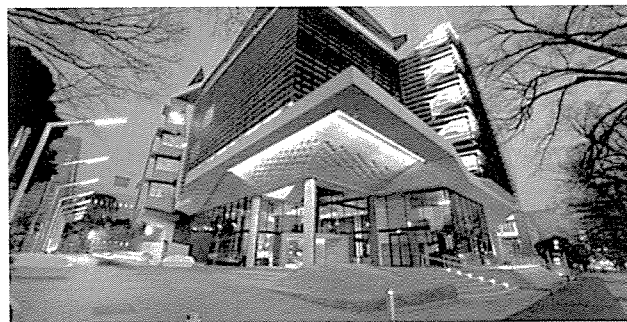
Eric Cunningham Dax (1908-2008) was a British psychiatrist who called Australia home from 1952 until his death; the genesis of the collection, comprising only a handful of items, came with him



from England. Dax gathered the remainder from the mental hospital patients whom he treated until his formal retirement in the mid-1980s. In 2009 Heritage Victoria recognised the importance of the collection as a 'resource to educate the community about how the mentally ill experience the world around them'.

Dax himself published *The Cunningham Dax Collection: Selected Works of Psychiatric Art* in 1998, while ANZSHM member Ann Westmore, who had many discussions with Dax over the last years of his life, penned a tribute to him in *Health and History* in 2008.

Prior to that time Belinda Robson, then a Melbourne doctoral student and now a senior policy and research co-ordinator with the Victorian Department of Justice Victims Support Agency, completed her thesis on aspects of Dax's work. The first fruits of her research were published in volume 1 of *Health and History* (1999) and she followed this with an article on Dax's work with the Victorian Mental Hygiene Authority from 1951-69 in *History of Psychiatry* (2002); based on her thesis, the article made no mention of psychiatric art. Robson also contributed a chapter to *'Madness' in Australia: Histories, heritage and the asylum*, edited by two more of our members – Cathy Colborne and Dolly MacKinnon, in 2003.



The Cunningham Dax Collection is now housed on the University of Melbourne Parkville Campus, within the Melbourne Brain Centre, which is located within the Kenneth Myer Building on Royal Parade.

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For the latest information, visit the ANZSHM Internet Website: www.anzshm.org.au

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

DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT ISSUE WILL BE 15 FEBRUARY 2015.