

Editor/President

Dr Mark Ferson
4 Sofala Ave
Riverview NSW 2066
0401 141 890
m.ferson@unsw.edu.au

Secretary

Bronwyn Vost
bronwynvost@bigpond.com

Designer

Mary Keep
mary.keep@gmail.com



**Bookplate by
Derek Birdsall for
Joanna and Edmund Capon,
London, 1977**

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A historical find: the Lending Library of Port Jackson, Sydney, 1809

By Jürgen Wegner, Sydney

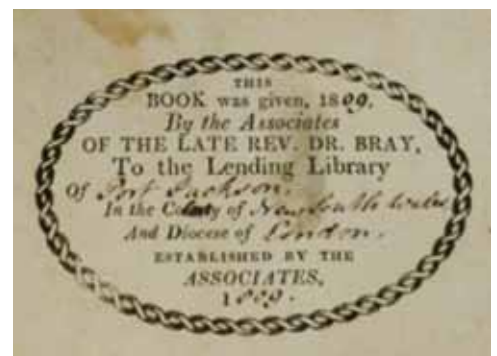
At last year's first Sydney Rare Book Week, one of the collections which opened its doors to those interested in the history of books and printing was the Library of the Moore College (also known as Moore Theological College) in Newtown. The event was styled 'Books of the Reformation: an Interactive Exhibition' and for those assembled, the librarian, Erin Mollenhauer, had put out on display some of the varied treasures which the library holds. These included early works by Luther but, especially, two incunabula: one of which dates from 1473 — an edition of St Augustine's *De civitate dei* printed by Schoeffer in Mainz; and *Liber epistolarum sancti Heironymi* printed in Basel in 1497. These form a part of the Bishop Broughton Memorial Library, based on a collection assembled between 1839 and the closing years of the nineteenth century. In England in 1836, where he was consecrated first Bishop of Australia, William Grant Broughton (1788-1853) spoke of the importance of adding to the theological library in Sydney. His appeal was successful and the two incunabula were part of the collection of books assembled and sent out as a result.

There had been a previous attempt at establishing a library to which these books were now added. The colony must have seemed such a remote place in 1809 and its inhabitants given over to countless temptations. Richard Johnson, first chaplain to the new Colony of New South Wales, was succeeded by the Rev Samuel Marsden, who brought out to the colony a collection of books which had been given to him to establish a 'lending library for the benefit of the inhabitants of New South Wales'. Marsden hoped that this collection would cover diverse subjects and not only theological works: 'Divinity and morals, history, voyages and travels,

agriculture in all its branches, mineralogy and practical mechanics'. When Marsden returned to Sydney in 1810 from a period in England, it is thought that about seventy volumes were brought out with him.

These books were a gift by the 'Associates of the late Rev. Dr. Bray', a group which had been originally formed in 1723 by Bray to look after free parochial libraries in England. Marsden's endeavours were rewarded by the donations, many of which are today still part of the Bishop Broughton Memorial Library.

All of them bear the gift plate which acknowledges the Associates' contribution to the Lending Library of Port Jackson. *Newsletter* no. 31 contains an article by Matthew Fishburn on the earliest known Australian bookplate, itself a remarkable story. The bookplate was engraved by ex-convict Samuel Clayton in Sydney in 1818 for a visiting American merchant, Charles Izard Manigault. While the bookplate illustrated below is not quite a personal bookplate but a gift plate to an Australian library, and while it was probably produced in England, it is nevertheless, I believe, the earliest known Australian ownership label.



Bookplate marking books given by the Associates of the Late Rev Dr Bray to the Lending Library of Port Jackson, 1809



Some books of the Bishop Broughton Memorial Library, Moore College, Sydney

Further reading

K J Cable, 'Broughton, William Grant (1788–1853)', *Australian Dictionary of Biography*. Canberra: National Centre of Biography, Australian National University, 1966. Online at <http://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/broughton-william-grant-1832/text2107>

N S Pollard & Margaret J Chivers, *The catalogue of the Bishop Broughton Memorial Library*. Sydney: Moore College Library, 1973. Vol. 1, books printed up to 1700, available online at <https://myrrh.library.moore.edu.au/handle/10248/5152>

Auckland report

By Robert Webster, President, Auckland Ex Libris Society; and Ian Thwaites, Auckland

Nellie Melba's bookplate, designed in 1927 by Cyril Dillon, was one of many plates featured at the October 2019 meeting of the Auckland Ex Libris Society. Melba is featured standing beneath towering columns, which are entwined with ribbons bearing the names of her famous roles. The keystone area of the top arch has a map of Australia, unfortunately sans Tasmania.

This very decorative image was displayed along with stories of famous people who had travelled to New Zealand and had made some comments about the country and people. Over many years I have assembled a list of bookplates entitled 'Friends, Roamers and Countrymen'. The first covers those

who had friends out here, but never came themselves. Included in this category are Charlotte Brontë, Charles Kingsley, and Beatrix Potter to name a few. The second relates to those that travelled, such as actors and other entertainers. Melba is in this category, having undertaken three visits over the whole country. And lastly the 'Countrymen' are those New Zealanders who because of their fame have not always been regarded as New Zealand citizens. In this section we find Hugh Walpole, Dorothy Wall, and surprisingly, Katherine Mansfield and Ngaio Marsh.

A large number of the bookplates were found by searching the internet and these were printed off for display purposes. Melba was in this selection.

Many of the travellers visited Australia and New Zealand and information about them is readily available. Included are Sarah Bernhardt (1891), Henry Morton Stanley (1891), who found Livingstone, Alexander Graham Bell (1910), and Arthur Conan Doyle (1920). [*The intriguing history of Conan Doyle's purported bookplate has been covered in detail elsewhere, see footnote — Ed.*]

Official British Government business to investigate the capacity for development in certain regions saw the arrival and tour of Rudyard Kipling (1891), Lord Kitchener (1910) and Rider Haggard (1913 and 1916). Each of these men possessed bookplates. Kitchener had heraldic forms derived from family tradition; Rudyard Kipling himself can be seen in a very Indian themed plate showing him in a howdah on an elephant; while Haggard's is unusual in being totally made up of

Egyptian hieroglyphics, designed for him by fellow Egyptologist, the Rev W J Loftie. Kitchener had family in the South Island — his father had owned land in North Otago for years and had placed family members on it. Kitchener's sister lived here and accompanied him around the country. In 1922 Agatha Christie toured with her husband and his fellow committee men engaged on Government work.

Within the poets degree, worthy of mention was the visit in 1913 of Rupert Brooke whose diary entries were read. His plate shows paths, clouds and lots of trees. It has been said that those who met him fell in love with the man who was regarded as 'the most handsome man in the empire'. Charles Appleton Longfellow, who toured in 1891 enjoying himself reading, wandering and sailing on local yachts. His father Henry Wadsworth Longfellow had a bookplate of about visiting card size, printed with his name over a Latin inscription.

Later visitors included Cole Porter who, in 1935, spent a quick six days in the North Island and two days in Sydney. Travelling on a world tour he was with his wife and his old Harvard friend, actor Monty Woolley. The latter has an elaborate bookplate symbolic of the Old West. Fortunately there are photographs to prove this visit, as he did not give any performances, and some doubt he ever made it here.

Space restricts the mention of too many others but suffice to say we did not lose out on mentioning Bernard Shaw, Amber Reeves a New Zealander who had a child to H G Wells, the gruff looking Anthony Trollope (his son lived in Australia) and Henry Lawson who lived in New Zealand on three occasions, including one lengthy period as a teacher in the South Island.

All these celebrities came by ship which made it almost necessary to stay longer than a week, in contrast to the modern characters dripping in celebrity status that arrive and leave almost every other day!

Footnote

Stanley Wertheim, The adventure of the Arthur Conan Doyle bookplate, *Bookplate Journal*, vol. 1, no. 2, Sept. 1983; 65-74

His first bookplate

By Bryan Welch, London

My son Jamie (aged 8 years) shows an interest in my bookplate collection from time to time, so I suggested to him that he might design a bookplate himself. I was delighted with the outcome which shows intuitive understanding of the needs of this small medium. I especially like the oval frame, over the border of which the pictorial elements stray, the dynamism which keeps the eye moving round the picture and the name integrated into the whole. He was not as pleased with it as I am and was reluctant to sign this apprentice work. I will let you know if he starts taking commissions!



Hand-drawn bookplate by Jamie Welch, aged 8, for Bryan Welch, 2020

Below left: Reproduction of etched bookplate by Cyril Dillon for Nellie Melba, 1928

Below right: Purported bookplate for Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, c. 1950s



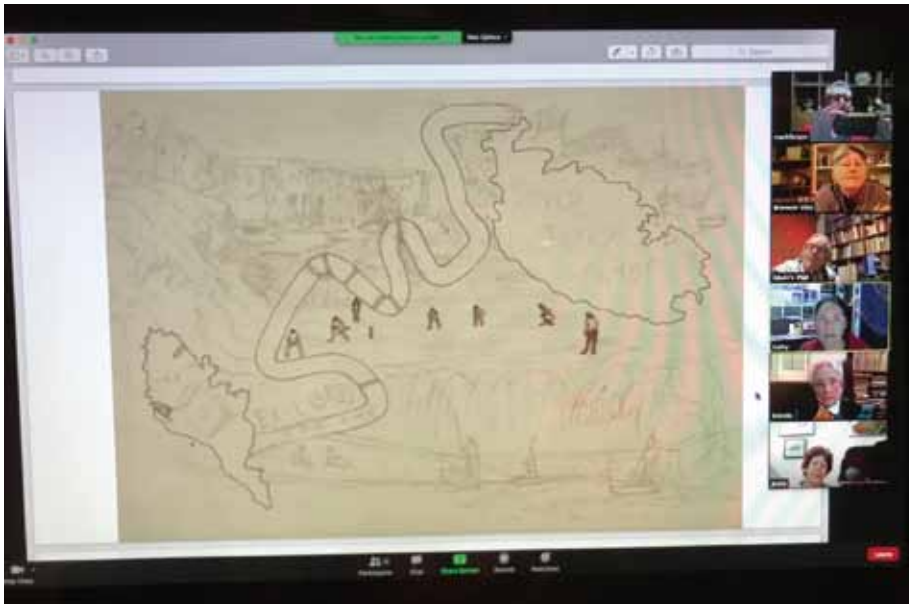
The Society's 13th Annual General Meeting, virtually

By Mark J Ferson, Sydney

Through the enthusiasm and good offices of Honorary Secretary, Bronwyn Vost, the Society held what seems to have been a successful 13th Annual General Meeting on 4 June 2020 using the online videoconference application Zoom. Bronwyn had sent out notice in plenty of time, offered a practice run beforehand to interested members and gave effective assistance to members who wished to join but were not familiar with the technology.

To warm people up to the novel meeting format, I had prepared a bookplate trivia quiz which we conducted at the start of the meeting — I realised that the questions were doubtless too hard for most, so Bronwyn circulated the questions earlier in the day to allow members to look for the answers themselves — and in the event, Edwin Jewell had the best score, with 12 of the 17 questions correct, and Mary Keep was the runner up with eight correct.

As we did not wish to make the meeting too long, reports were presented briefly — the President's Report for 2019 is given



Above: Screenshot from Kathryn Lovejoy's presentation to the virtual AGM, depicting an earlier stage of her bookplate for David Tombs
 Below: Bookplate by Kathryn Lovejoy for David James Tombs, 2016



below — including a few words from Jess Le the Society's Social Media Secretary. In the absence of alternative nominations, the 2019 office bearers and committee members were re-elected for 2020. The key Agenda item was the conservation of the Eirene Mort Bookplate Collection which in 2018 had been gifted to the Society by her family. We had received a very favourable quote from Kay Soderlund, a well known conservator, and in light of Kay's impending retirement, a decision on funding the work was urgently needed. Members agreed that the Society should pay from its own account, which held

a balance of approximately \$5000 as at 31 December 2019. It was also agreed that members should be asked for donations to the Society earmarked for the Mort Collection conservation. A report on this project will be provided in a future issue of the *Newsletter*.

Official business concluded, Queensland member and artist, Kathryn Lovejoy, gave a fascinating presentation on her approach to bookplate design, in which she showed examples of some of her bookplates including images illustrating the development of the complex and innovative design for David Tombs. We concluded

by thanking Kathryn for her superb talk and the President thanked Bronwyn for organising the meeting and acknowledged members for their participation, including five who had joined from interstate.

President's Report for 2019

I would like to thank those of you who have been able to participate in the 13th Annual General Meeting using online technology. This is an experiment for us, necessitated of course by the restrictions imposed on the Australian community to dampen the spread of novel coronavirus, and reflects the mode by which almost every group is now operating. I would like to thank Honorary Secretary, Bronwyn Vost, for her enthusiastic embracing of the technology which allows us to hold this Meeting today.

Opportunities to talk about bookplates and possibly to promote the Society are always to be grasped, and a number of these presented themselves during the year, always as a result of the networks that exist between members of this Society and other like minded groups. The first for the year was an invitation to speak at the State Library of New South Wales in March on 'Bookplate making, collecting and use in Australia'. In July, as part of Melbourne's Rare Book Week I spoke on 'Bookplates in Australia' which attracted an audience of about 40 and many questions at the end. Whilst this talk is in effect my 'stock in trade' I did attempt to introduce some material and stories specific to the host state.

Later in the year, through the good offices of members Peter Tinslay and Paul Feain (who are also members of the Australian and New Zealand Association of Antiquarian Booksellers) and of Vice President Ronald Cardwell, I gave a talk at the end of October as part of Sydney Rare Book Week with the same title but with some Sydney specific content. Moreover, the Society was able to have a small stand in the magnificent MacLaurin Hall at Sydney University as part of Sydney Rare Book Fair on 1–2 November and I would like to thank Ronald Cardwell, Nick Ingleton and Bronwyn Vost for staffing the stand over those two days. I am pleased to say that we

have had new members join the Society as a result of these events.

However there are always a small number of members who drop out and so in 2019, paid membership of the Society was 71 (72 in 2018), of which 62 were for the hard copy *Newsletter* and 9 the digital membership.

Thankfully there always seems to be new and fresh material for the *Newsletter*, all issues of which were well received, and in addition to our growing social media profile, regarding which Jess Le will talk shortly, the *Newsletter* is the glue that holds us together and makes us a 'community' (to use a fashionable word). I am grateful to Mary Keep for the consistent high standard of design of our publications, and also to *Newsletter* contributors Dr Dianne Longley (Trentham, Vic.), Anna MacDiarmid Cahill (Brisbane), Jürgen Wegner (Sydney), Ronald Cardwell (Sydney), Dr Michael Taffe (Ballarat). Dr Peter Sheridan (Sydney), Mary Keep (Sydney), and particularly and somewhat surprisingly an enthusiastic non-member, Jon McGhee of Southeastern Queensland who contributed major articles to *Newsletter* nos. 53, 54 and 55.

My thanks also go to Bronwyn for organising today's coronavirus free and technology driven AGM and for arranging the social media workshop led by Zora Regulic in 2019, and to the Society executive and committee, Ronald Cardwell and Nick Ingleton, for their support of the Society and my work.

**Auction report:
Sydney Rare Book Auctions,
13 June 2020, Rare books,
pottery, ephemera, art,
sporting memorabilia, & more!**

By Mark J Ferson, Sydney

In March, the Society's Honorary Secretary, Bronwyn Vost, was contacted by the granddaughter of F C V Lane, who had 'googled' the word *bookplates* and found the contact details of the Society. Bronwyn reports that the caller stated that she was getting on a bit and wanted to empty her house of Lane's bookplate and book

collection. Whilst she lives in North Queensland, she was in Sydney with the collection, looking for some way to sell it. As it happened, the coronavirus pandemic meant that she did not wish or was unable to return home.

As some readers may know — including members who joined our virtual Annual General Meeting in early June and participated in the Trivia quiz — Frederick C V Lane (1879-1969) became famous as the first Australian Olympic swimming champion, having won two gold medals at the 1900 Paris Olympics. His granddaughter explained that his family had a ship chandlery business, and that Mark Foy (founder of the well-known Sydney department store bearing his name) had sponsored Lane to train in England in preparation for the Olympics. In 1903, he established himself as a partner in the firm of Smith & Lane, printers and stationers, of Bridge Street, Sydney. He collected in a variety of fields, including the work of his friend Norman Lindsay — incidentally they shared the same years of birth and death — and bookplates. He was involved in the Australian Ex Libris Society which he had joined in 1926, was entrusted by designers with printing their bookplates to a high standard and wrote for Adelaide bookplate enthusiast Harry Muir a booklet on his friend's bookplates *The bookplates of Norman Lindsay* (Adelaide: Wakefield Press, 1944).

Lane and his family lived for a number of years in Cremorne Point and, according to his granddaughter, was heavily involved in the 1920s in the building of the Maccallum Pool in Cremorne Reserve. He later moved to Mona Vale on Sydney's northern beaches and not long before his death, his home including much of his collection was destroyed by fire.

His granddaughter consigned what remained of Lane's bookplates, books and other memorabilia to Sydney Rare Book Auctions for sale at the 13 June auction. Included were 28 lots comprising one or more bookplates or artwork for bookplates. I was successful in bidding for one small lot of six designs, which included a charred bookplate for Lane by 'A H'. Noteworthy and possibly unique lots included: an



Above: Fire-stained proof of etched bookplate by F C V Lane for himself, 1927

Below: Wood-engraved bookplate by A H for F C V Lane



etched bookplate for Jean Lane by Hedley Parsons annotated 'Syd Long's Etch Studio' (lot 407); original Norman Lindsay etching of the Francis Crosslé bookplate in large format (524); pen-and-ink artwork for a Fred Lane Jr bookplate (614); original artwork for Noel Cook's 1930 bookplate for Amy Johnson (615); 16 bookplates designed by mostly Australian artists for Lane including a proof of a very creditable etching by his own hand (653); and an original bookplate for Rosamond Lane signed by Julian Ashton (657). Sadly, some other materials consigned, including Lane's

collection of bookplates mounted on card, were too badly charred to be saleable.

Further reading

G P Walsh, 'Lane, Frederick Claude Vivian (1879–1969)', *Australian Dictionary of Biography*. Canberra: National Centre of Biography, Australian National University, 1983. Online at <http://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/lane-frederick-claude-vivian-7023/text12215>

The catalogue of the 'Rare books, pottery, ephemera, art, sporting memorabilia, & more!' auction held by Sydney Rare Book Auctions on 13 June 2020 can be found at <https://www.invaluable.com/catalog/0ohcyv2kmg>

Notes and happenings

Publications

LESLEY HARDING AND KENDRAH MORGAN.

Mirka & Georges: a culinary affair.

Melbourne: Miegunyah Press, 2018;

pp. 18, 188

On both pages, Mirka's bookplate for herself (1975) is placed among examples of the artist's jottings, drawings and collected objects.

KAREN MATHER. The life and times of

John Patrick Dwyer. *Traces*, no. 10, 2020;

pp. 34-6.

Shows a prize plate from Geelong College dated 1893 presented to Dwyer.

PATRICK SPEDDING AND PETER PEREYRA.

The Huon Mechanics' Institute Library, 1858-1990. *Script & Print*, vol. 42, no. 4, 2018 (publ. March 2020); pp. 221-35

Reproduces the bookplate 'Huon Mechanics' Institute, Franklin' with acquisition number 12, located in a volume of the 1797 edition of the *Encyclopaedia Britannica*.

GEORGE SWINBURNE. Tarnagula Mechanics' Institute library remnant. *Useful Knowledge (MIV Magazine)*, no. 51, Summer-Autumn 2020; p. 21

Brief outline of the Institute's history and reference to the fact that in the 1950s and 1960s many of its books were sourced from other commercial libraries; shows bookplates from Variety Library Service (Vic.) and The Redan Book Club (Vic.)

Editorial

At the outset, I must apologise for the lateness of this issue of the *Newsletter*, which of course has a cover date of June but is likely to appear in late July or early August. I can only claim as my excuse the distractions of work and a commitment to guest editing the June number of the Book Collectors' Society of Australia journal *Bibliotexts and Australian Notes & Queries*. However, on the positive side of the ledger, for those of you who are members of both book arts-related societies, I have made sure that there is some bookplate material in *Bibliotexts*!

It does seem there is always something fresh and new to write about bookplates, and this number of the *Newsletter* is no exception. Dedicated archivist of printing history and regular contributor, Jürgen Wegner, has found what is likely to be the earliest bookplate designed for Australian use, that for the Lending Library of Port Jackson, dated 1809. From across the Tasman, we have a summary of a talk given by President of the Auckland Ex Libris Society, Robert Webster, who selected a number of 'celebrity' travellers to New Zealand on the basis that they owned bookplates. There can be nothing fresher than a child's colourful

design for a bookplate, and London member Bryan Welch has contributed the product of his 8-year-old son Jamie's interest in his father's bookplate collection. The Society's 13th Annual General Meeting took place in early June and, as has been happening around the world as a consequence of the coronavirus pandemic, it was conducted as an online virtual meeting. This led to an excellent turnout, including five members from Victoria and Queensland; in addition to the usual agenda items, members participated in a bookplate trivia quiz as a warm up, and the meeting concluded with a fascinating presentation by artist-member Kathryn Lovejoy on her approach to bookplate design.

Let me take this opportunity to send you best wishes in the time of severe coronavirus restrictions and for getting through the pandemic — which WILL end one day — with your physical, mental and emotional health intact. Reading about and looking at bookplates will stave off at least some of the ill effects!

MF



NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

Artur Mario da Mota Miranda: His Contribution to Ex-Libris and an Index to his Works

ii + 82 pages, published by Tudor Australia Press, and printed by Print Matters of Norwood, South Australia. Delivery taken on 28 April 2020. Illustrated with five photographs and 116 illustrations of bookplates created for Mota Miranda (generally photo-reduced). Produced in a size to match Mota Miranda's publications. Laminated Soft Cover.

The Colophon on page 82 indicates that 150 copies were published in a numbered, limited, edition, numbered from 001 to 150. In addition, the first twenty-five copies included an original etched plate by Marius Martinescu and a wood engraving by Grigory Babich. In addition, the first seven copies also included two extra plates in each copy of a Mota Miranda bookplate.

However, in addition, two extra copies were printed as 'Author's Proofs', which include two Mota Miranda bookplates in each copy. These are un-numbered and designated as 'AP' on the colophon. The printer also delivered five extra copies, all un-numbered, which will be used for legal deposit.

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Prices (Postage is extra)

	AUD	Sterling	Euro
Ordinary edition	\$45	£25	€30
25 copy edition	\$70	£35	€42
7 copy edition	\$95	£50	€60