

Editor/President

Dr Mark Ferson
4 Sofala Ave
Riverview NSW 2066
02 9428 2863
m.ferson@unsw.edu.au

Designer/Secretary

Mary Keep
PO Box 555
Dulwich Hill NSW 2203
tnabs_mkeep@hotmail.com



Woodcut by Eirene Mort
for herself, 1902

CONTENTS

A Trevelyan Bookplate	1
Prize plates: nature, nurture or nepotism?	3
Letter to the Editor	4
Notes and happenings	4
Recent publications	5
'In honour of Sir John Ferguson'	5
Canberra Community Hospital. Dr Lewis W Nott Memorial Training Library for Nurses	5
Editorial	6

A Trevelyan Bookplate

Gael E Phillips FRCPA, Brisbane

My curiosity was aroused when I found the bookplate of Eleonora, Lady Trevelyan, pasted inside the cover of *Footprints of former men in far Cornwall* (London: J R Smith, 1870), by R S Hawker, Vicar of Morwenstow, in Cornwall. I had recently bought the book from a UK bookseller. An inscription on the title page reads:

'Presented by Lady Robartes to Sir Charles Trevelyan and by him transferred to Eleonora Lady Trevelyan, Duke of Cornwall Hotel, Plymouth, August 25, 1876.'

Who were these people? The bookplate is beautifully drawn and I knew there must be a story behind the image. This is what I have discovered since I began this little research project.

Lady Eleonora Trevelyan, née Campbell, was the second wife of Sir Charles Edward Trevelyan, the First Baronet and a prominent Victorian civil servant. He is known for his role in the failure of the British Government, when he was Assistant Secretary of the Treasury, to supply sufficient aid for the starving during the Irish potato famine of the 1840s (although at the time his contribution was considered a valuable one and he was knighted for this work in 1848 and made a Baronet in 1874).

As a result of the famine approximately 1.8 million people died in Ireland. Many Australians are descended from Irish who migrated to Australia at this time. The blight was due to an infection by a water-borne organism called *Phytophthora infestans*, which infects the potato through the roots causing the potatoes to rot in the ground. In recent years the role of Sir Charles Trevelyan in the Irish potato famine has been re-evaluated and his reputation has been partly rehabilitated.

His role in the Northcote-Trevelyan Report (1854), which set out administrative structures

for the reform of the British Civil Service still in place today, was of enormous benefit to Britain. As Governor of Madras from 1858 to 1865 he promoted English as the language in which the Indian population should be educated.

Lady Eleonora's etched bookplate depicts a rural scene of a large country house, seen through a partly ruined arch of an old garden wall. The fine detail in the foreground includes depictions of foxgloves, ferns and mushrooms. A spider's web is visible in the arch and a tomb, a memento mori, is also seen. Lady Eleonora's name is written around the arch, and above is depicted the impaled arms of Sir Charles Trevelyan and of the Campbells of Islay.

The history of the Trevelyan family indicates the supposed origin of their arms, described in heraldic terms as 'Gules, a demi-horse argent, hooped and maned or, issuing out of water in base proper.' Translated this means that on a red background there is half a silver horse with a golden mane and golden hooves, emerging from water, which is depicted more or less naturalistically. There is an ancient story that when the Lost Land of Lyonesse, between Land's End and the Isles of Scilly, was submerged, a lone horseman escaped the deluge, emerging from the waves on a white horse. The name of that man was Trevelyan, hence the design of the Trevelyan arms. The hand in the upper part of the shield is the Red Hand of Ulster, a charge indicating the owner is a Baronet. The supporters are two dolphins and the crest comprises two arms holding a bezant, an heraldic gold coin. The Trevelyan motto, "Time Tryeth Troth" (time tests faith) is also shown. The name, Trevelyan, is a typically Cornish name, the prefix Tre- meaning 'homestead' or 'dwelling', in this case, Milian's homestead, "Tre-(M)vilian" in the Parish of St Veep in Cornwall. An alternative spelling is Trevellion.



Etched bookplate by William Bell Scott for Lady Eleonora Trevelyan, 1857-8

The bookplate was etched by Pre-Raphaelite artist William Bell Scott. His initials, W B S 1857-8, are etched in the plate but Sir Charles Trevelyan and Eleonora Campbell did not marry until 1875. How could this be? I believe I have found the explanation for this apparent anachronism.

In his book, *Dated bookplates*, Walter Hamilton lists two Trevelyan bookplates, one for Sir Walter Calverley Trevelyan and one for Sir Charles Edward Trevelyan, both dated 1857-8 and both by William Bell Scott. Sir Walter's plate is almost identical in design to Eleonora's. Both have been drawn by the same hand with very similar calligraphic strokes and lines but it is clear that two different etching plates have been

used. On the other hand, it is likely that the plate used for Lady Eleonora's bookplate was originally made for Sir Charles Edward Trevelyan and later re-worked. One of the useful features of etching plates is that they may be burnished, re-etched and re-printed as a slightly different image. Unfortunately at the time of writing I have not been able to sight a copy of the bookplate belonging to Sir Charles E Trevelyan in order to prove this theory.

As well, in the Hocken Collection of the University of Otago (Dunedin, NZ) there is a bookplate made for Charles (the grandson of Sir Charles Edward Trevelyan) and Mary Trevelyan, who were wed in 1904. It clearly uses the same design, but the coat of arms

has been changed to impale the Trevelyan arms with those of Charles's wife, Mary Bell, and the name around the arch now reads "Charles and Mary Trevelyan". It is possible that this bookplate also was made using the original etching plate which has been re-etched.

The style of the plate is very much mid-Victorian romantic, and typical of the Pre-Raphaelite Brotherhood. In a letter to William Henry Fox Talbot on 12 September 1871, Sir Walter C Trevelyan describes a bookplate by William Bell Scott, a copy of which he enclosed. Sir Walter says it is an etching by W B Scott which was "a correct view excepting the ruined arch, which is ideal". The house depicted is Wallington Hall in Northumberland, the home of Sir Walter Trevelyan, which he bequeathed to his cousin Charles. Trevelyan means by "ideal" that the depiction of the ruined arch is an idealised depiction, just an imaginative decoration perhaps, but that the view of the house is a true representation of his property. Fox Talbot and Sir Walter were friends from their schooldays and Sir Walter was very interested in Fox Talbot's early experiments in photography. They corresponded for many decades until death.

Lady Pauline Trevelyan, the wife of Sir Walter Trevelyan, was very close to the Pre-Raphaelites, and was chief patron of William Bell Scott, who also painted a series of greatly admired murals at the home of Sir Walter and Lady Pauline, Wallington Hall.

When Sir Walter died in 1879 he bequeathed the Hall to his cousin, Sir Charles Edward Trevelyan. Sir Charles died in London in 1886 and his widow, Lady Eleonora, died in London in 1919 at an advanced age. Wallington Hall has now become the property of the people of Britain, bequeathed to the National Trust by the public spirited and Socialist grandson of Sir Charles Edward Trevelyan, Sir Charles Philips Trevelyan, the owner of the bookplate in the Hocken Collection, who died in 1958.

What is the connection between the bookplate and Australia? It is a reminder to many Australians of our Irish ancestors who left Ireland at the time of the potato famine.

It reminds me of my great-grandmother, who was one of 4,000 female Irish orphans who came to Australia as young girls between 1848 and 1850. They became the founding mothers of many Australian families. It reminds me of a human catastrophe which has affected all our lives. The bookplate is of interest because of its connection to Sir Charles Edward Trevelyan, one of the key figures in the unfolding disaster of the Irish potato famine.

Acknowledgements: I wish to thank the Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge for a digital image of the bookplate of Sir Walter Calverley Trevelyan which was made available for this research.

References may be obtained from the author at PO Box 7629, East Brisbane, QLD 4169.

Prize plates: nature, nurture or nepotism?

Mark J Ferson, Sydney

Maybe I should apologise for this somewhat tongue-in-cheek title before I really offend someone or am sued for defamation. Although not considered by most to be in the same category of interest or value as personal pictorial or heraldic bookplates, prize plates (also known as premium plates) are nevertheless collected. And as I have

previously mentioned, they have been catalogued and otherwise written about by no lesser authorities than Brian North Lee (*Premium or prize ex-libris*, London: Bookplate Society, 2001) and our own Jeff Bidgood ('Premium or prize plates', *Biblinews and Australian Notes & Queries*, no. 327, Sept. 2000, pp. 94-101). Jeff's article refers to the following entry under 'P' in the September 1999 issue of the *Newsletter* of the Bookplate Society (UK):

PREMIUMS. The bookplates designed to record a prize or award of a book or books to an individual from an institution are referred to as premiums. ... Some of the eighteenth century premiums are fine compositions. In living memory many schools and Sunday schools presented books as prizes always with a ... premium pasted inside.

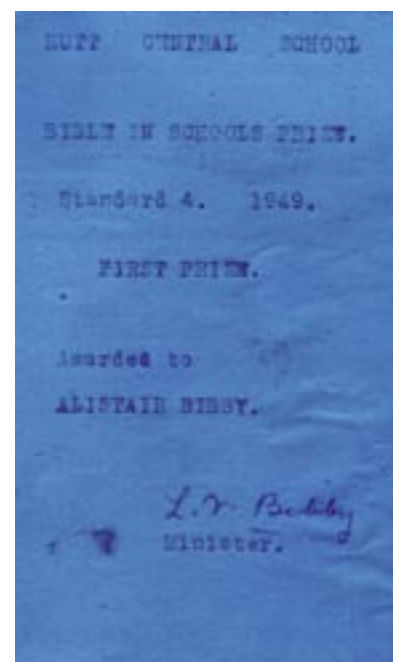
I have been on the lookout for prize bookplates for many years, sometimes to give to Jeff to add to his collection, and sometimes to add to my own 'collection' which essentially lives in boxes and other miscellaneous hiding places, and more recently in virtual form as image files in my computer. Some of them have attracted my attention as I have noticed a slight correlation between the name of the recipient and the authority named on the award.

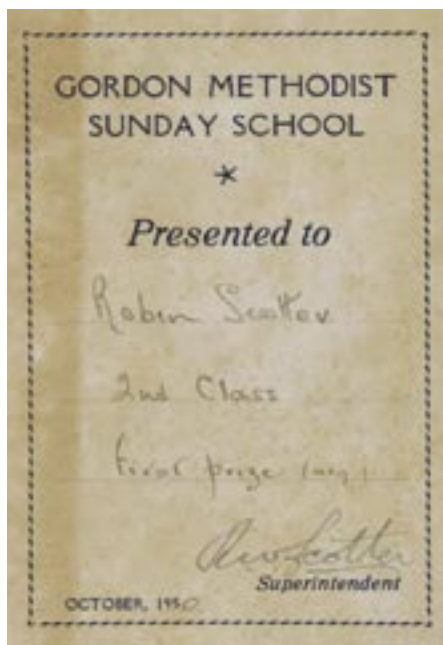
Examining the four plates in chronological order, the first was pasted into W M Rossetti, *The poetical works of William Cowper* (London: Ward Lock, ND). It was presented to Alice Dodgshun for 'Attendance & Lessons' in the class of Charles Dodgshun at the Zion-Independent Sunday School, Hawthorn, Victoria, and signed by Superintendent F W Dodgshun on 13 May 1912. Small clues gleaned on the internet have identified the superintendent as merchant Frederick William Dodgshun (1862-1929), son of Yorkshire-born James Dodgshun, one time lord mayor of Melbourne; Frederick's son Keith, born in Hawthorn, became a politician. Undoubtedly much more information on this prominent family is available from written sources.

The second, a universal school prize design printed by Frank Every's Book & Stationery Centre, Bendigo (Victoria) was awarded to Bert Thomas of the Intermediate class at Dingee Methodist Sunday School, dated 8 October 1933 by E Gold, superintendent and E Thomas, secretary.

The third plate, from New Zealand, typed in black on royal blue paper, was awarded in 1949 to Alistair Bibby for first prize in the Bible in Schools Prize at Hutt Central School, and was signed by L V Bibby, Minister.

The final example, found in Helen Dore





Boylston, *Sue Barton – student nurse* (London: John Lane Bodley Head, 1950) was presented to Robin Scotter for equal first prize in second class at the Gordon (NSW) Methodist Sunday School, and signed R W Scotter, superintendent, October 1950. The on-line history of Gordon Uniting Church records Roy Wilfred Scotter (1902-1973), as having held the post of superintendent for 17 years, during which time he conducted the Methodist Crusader Choir in the Sydney Town Hall at the State Methodist Conference.

My suggestion is that achieving families are likely to have achieving children, due to genetics or supportive environments or both, whilst small and stable communities, mirrored by the schools located within them, will contain multiple generations of the same family. The examples accompanying this article are evidence of these principles.

Letter to the Editor

A few comments on the latest Index issue and *Newsletter* no. 21. By coincidence I have John Gibson's copy of Adrian Feint's publication, *Bookplates* (1927). As well as a signed copy of Gibson's Feint plate, it also has pasted in a letter from Adrian Feint to Gibson dated 29 August 1932, regarding the commission for his wood-engraved bookplate. The charge was five guineas for the plate, including 25 signed copies of the bookplate.

The information regarding the bookplate for Sir John Henry Butters was interesting, particularly as so much heraldry was included. At the top of the bookplate are two badges. The one on the right is for the Order of St Michael and St George (CMG in 1923) and the one on the left is for the Order of the British Empire (MBE in 1920).

The American Bookplate Society, based in Kansas City, early in its life attracted Australian bookplate collectors, notably P Neville Barnett, who joined in 1916. Barnett used the Constitution of the American Bookplate Society as a model for the Constitution of the Australian Ex Libris Society. Fowler published a quarterly publication, *The Miscellany*, from 1914 to at least 1916, after which it became *The Bookplate Booklet*. I have a set of *The Miscellany* from 1914-1916.

Andrew G Peake, Adelaide
24 August 2011

Notes and happenings

Bookplate lots at Sydney auction

The Bay East (Double Bay, NSW) 'Art & books' auction, held on 24 July 2011 included five lots of bookplates, each with pre-sale estimates of \$300-\$500. The hammer price on each lot was \$100 to \$300 with an average of \$190. I was the successful absentee bidder on lot 206 and for \$246.29 acquired 40 continental and US plates in addition to 30 plates of Australian and New Zealand origin or interest, many of which are original etchings and signed designs.

An item from Douglas Stewart email newsletter; New Acquisitions August 2011

BARNETT, P Neville, *Australian bookplates and book-plates of interest to Australia* [with Souvenir and letter], Sydney: privately printed [Beacon Press], 1950. Quarto, papered boards in dustjacket and glassine

overlay (very good), 280 pp heavily illustrated with bookplates, some of which are original graphics tipped-in, a magnificent showcase of Australian bookplates. ... Limited to 200 copies signed by the author. With: *Souvenir of Australian book-plates and book-plates of interest to Australia*, Sydney: privately printed [Beacon Press], 1951. Quarto, illustrated wrappers, 20 pp, illustrated. Limited to 200 signed copies. Also included is an unusual prospectus for the book which appears to have been trimmed. Still the definitive reference on Australian bookplates and a finely produced volume. With: an autograph manuscript letter from P Neville Barnett to the renowned bookplate and Norman Lindsay collector Keith Wingrove, dated 8 Feb. 51, in which Barnett discusses *Australian book-plates*, his new book, somewhat immodestly: 'It has been a huge job for it is a wonderful book – I do believe it will be regarded. Had I not proved so conclusively that I am capable of bringing out superlative books I'd have to hide my face in shame – but according to a reputation I am told is accorded me I have had the wonderful privilege of bringing out not a few but a heap of valuable books & lovely ones at that. Were I not so enthusiastic over them I never could have produced them – one after the other – for they have taken all my time, all my thought, all my energies, to say nothing of all my cash ...' A remarkably personal self-assessment by Barnett of his legacy as a publisher. \$ 1,500.00 AUD

From the library of A H & A W Reed, Wellington, New Zealand

One of my other finds on our NZ trip earlier this year was the above bookplate pasted onto the half title of a thin paperback, A H Reed, *Ben and Eleanor Farjeon and Dunedin* (Wellington: Reed, 1973 for the Dunedin Public Library), which I thought might have been the author's own copy. When I enquired of the Turnbull Library, Wellington, they put me in touch with historian Gavin McLean who had written

the centennial history of Reed Books. Mr McLean stated that mine was one of the publisher's file copies, and added the wry observation: 'Reed kept a few copies of each book and each edition it published. Copies had a book plate and editors were regularly reminded to sign for copies and to return them promptly!'

Recent publications

ROBIN GROW. Napier and Christian Waller (Bookplates)', in, *Delightfully Deco*. Albury City Council, Albury (NSW), 2011, p 93

Well illustrated catalogue of the 'Albury delightfully Deco' exhibition held from 9 July to 9 October 2011. Shows one bookplate by Napier and two by Christian Waller.

'In honour of Sir John Ferguson'

Sydney Rare Book Auctions held its second sale in Sydney on 25 September with material ranging over antiquarian, mining, literature, Australiana, art, exploration and voyages. At the viewing I spotted and was subsequently successful in securing with an absentee bid, lot 244, 'Two letters by

Ferguson.' This was in fact a unique bound copy of the National Library of Australia exhibition in honour of Sir John Ferguson, August 1965, which celebrated the book collecting of the eminent industrial court judge and compiler of the *Bibliography of Australia* (Sydney: Angus & Robertson, 1941-69). Bound in are a variety of items: a copy of 'The John Alexander Ferguson Memorial Lecture 1975', in fact a biography of Ferguson by G D Richardson, reprinted from the *Journal of the Royal Australian Historical Society* (September 1976); newspaper cuttings concerning Ferguson dating from 1925 to his death in 1969; and three (not two) letters written by Ferguson. A letter to George Mackaness from 1932 refers to literary items of common interest; a decade later a letter to John Gartner of the Hawthorn Press thanks Gartner for his 'kind reference to Vol. 1 of the *Bibliography of Australia*' and, reflecting on the time of war, notes that 'unfortunately all the more valuable portion of my library ... has been

packed up and sent to what is regarded as a safer place in the country.' Of final interest is the evidence that this specially bound volume once belonged to book collector/designer and bookplate artist Geoffrey C Ingleton. Pasted inside the front cover are his 'G & N Ingleton' bookplate featuring the family home at The Grange, Parramatta, and his design for books in the 'Ferguson Collection, National Library Canberra.' Below the latter, Ingleton has written, 'I was commissioned by the National Library, Canberra, to draw this bookplate – they were very happy with it.' This design is featured on the front cover of the catalogue.

**Canberra Community Hospital.
Dr Lewis W Nott Memorial
Training Library for Nurses.**

Mark J Ferson, Sydney

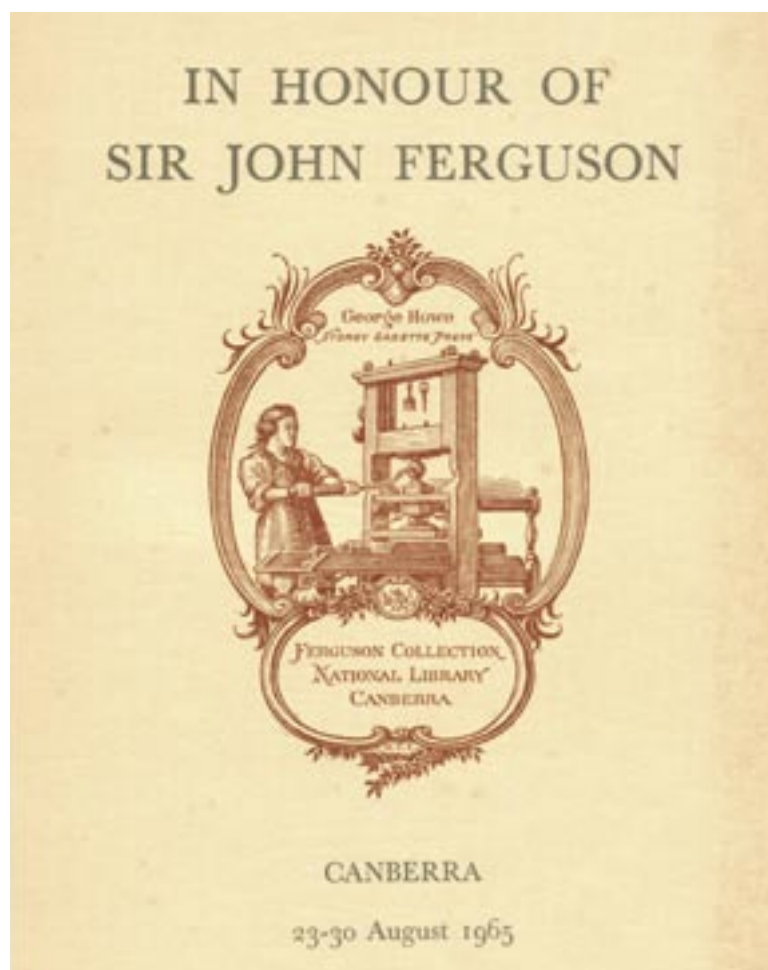
At the Turramurra (Sydney) Book Fair held on 30 July I found one of the small but



from the library of

A. H. & A. W. REED

**WELLINGTON
NEW ZEALAND**





Wood-engraved bookplate attributed to Mary Quick for Dr Lewis W Nott Memorial Training Library for Nurses, 1950s

well designed books of the Juniper Press, namely Mona Stuart Webster, *Mary Queen of Scots. A monograph* (1949). This was a private press operated by Mary Quick from the small Southern Highlands town of Burradoo, and I have been collecting its products – which seemed to follow the English early twentieth century private press tradition – due largely to the presence of charming wood engravings. These were all cut by Mary Quick who also designed a number of bookplates both typographical designs and wood engravings – the best known is probably the engraved label for the Tasmanian librarian and private press chronicler Geoffrey Farmer. Imagine my delight when I found loose inside the book a wood-engraved bookplate, unsigned, but undoubtedly by Mary Quick, for the Dr Lewis W Nott Memorial Training Library for Nurses.

Lewis Windermere Nott (1886-1951) was born in Bundaberg, began his medical studies at Sydney University and then travelled to Edinburgh where he was awarded a medical degree in 1917 after serving with distinction in World War I. Returning to Australia after the War he practised in Sydney then in Queensland where he was elected mayor of Mackay in 1923. In 1925 he defeated E G Theodore (whose bookplate, by serendipity, featured in *Newsletter* no. 18) by a narrow margin to become the Federal member for Herbert in North Queensland, and became the first member of Federal Parliament to take up permanent residence in the newly built Australian capital city.

Following electoral defeat in 1928 he was appointed as medical superintendent to the then Canberra Community Hospital (later Royal Canberra Hospital) which he served for many years and was a strong supporter of its School of Nursing. The Canberra Times of 22 September 1953 reported on the 15th annual meeting of the Canberra Community Hospital Auxiliary held the previous evening. The president in her annual report announced that the Auxiliary, 'as a permanent memorial to the work of Dr Nott and his great interest in the welfare and training of nurses ... had commenced a memorial library for the use of trainee nurses [and] the Hospital Board had prepared special accommodation for the library and 277 selected medical books had been purchased.'

Acknowledgements: Liz Rouse, Librarian, Royal Australian College of Physicians, Sydney; and Archives ACT, Canberra.

Editorial

The production house at the New Australian Bookplate Society has been running hot this year – with the Index sent out to members with *Newsletter* no. 21, and the *Directory of members* currently in preparation – and so with this excuse I must seek your forgiveness for this issue being a little late. The *Newsletter* opens with another fascinating and thoroughly researched paper by Brisbane member Dr Gael Phillips, whom I must again thank for adding to the variety of material presented here. I wish to acknowledge the assistance received from Liz Rouse and Gavin McLean in preparing some of the articles in this issue. Might I remind members and other readers that we are always on the lookout for material for the *Newsletter*, whether it is long or short, contemporary or historical. As the end of the year is rapidly approaching and the next issue is unlikely to reach you before the end of December, I might take this early opportunity to wish all readers compliments of the season.

MF

BOOKPLATE IMAGES SOUGHT

Adelaide member Andrew Peake is currently compiling a publication with the working title of *Australian bookplate artists and their bookplates*. It comprises a short article on each of the main Australian bookplate artists, illustrated with examples of their work. He has not been able to obtain originals or images of designs by the following artists: **Constance Coleman; Tim Jones; Ernest & Mollie Quick.**

If you have examples of their plates and could provide Andrew with a copy or scan he would be most grateful. A short biographical note on the owner of the bookplate to go with the image would be a bonus.

Andrew can be contacted at apeake@gmail.com (phone 08 8332 8884) or the Editor at m.ferson@unsw.edu.au (phone 02 9428 2863).

NOTICE

The Society is seeking contributions to a planned members' publication "Some Australian colonial bookplates".

If you have a bookplate used in Australia in the period 1788 to 1848 suitable for reproduction, please contact Ronald Cardwell at cardwell@mcks.com.au (phone 02 9894 7326) or the Editor at m.ferson@unsw.edu.au (phone 02 9428 2863).