

**HACKETT, Sir John Winthrop** (1848–1916), editor and politician, migrated from Dublin to Sydney in 1875 and settled in Melbourne as vice-principal of Trinity College. In 1883 he travelled to Perth to become joint proprietor and later editor of the *West Australian*. Hackett was an advocate of responsible government and in 1890 was nominated to the legislative council by John Forrest. He represented the southwestern province from 1904 until his death. As a public benefactor he made large bequests to the state library and the University of WA.



*Etching of the bushranger, Ben Hall, by Samuel Calvert, 1865.*

NATIONAL LIBRARY

**HALE, Mathew Blagden** (1811–95), first Anglican bishop of Perth, arrived in Adelaide from England in 1847 to serve as archdeacon to Augustus Short, bishop of Adelaide. He became involved in the welfare of Aborigines and founded an institution for their education at Poonindie, SA. Hale was consecrated bishop of Perth in 1857 and was notable for his attempts to introduce secondary education in the state. From 1875 to 1885 he was bishop of Brisbane.

**HALL, Benjamin** (1837–65), bushranger, became a stockman and leased a run, Sandy Creek, near Wheogo, NSW. Hall was arrested for armed robbery in 1862. He was acquitted, but detained soon afterwards for his part in the Eugowra gold escort robbery. He was not committed for trial. On his return to his leased run he found it razed and his stock animals killed. Embittered, he joined John Gilbert and became leader of a gang of bushrangers. Hall organised and led the group on daring and successful raids. In 1864 they concentrated on the Sydney–Melbourne road near Goulburn. Members of the gang shot a policeman in 1864 and a second one in the next year. Hall, with a £1000 on his head, was betrayed, and shot dead by police in an ambush.

**HALL, Kenneth George** (1901– ), film director, became a cadet reporter before joining Union Theatres Ltd in 1917, for whom he managed the Lyceum theatre in Sydney and was later publicity director.

Hall's first experience in making a film was with *The exploits of the Emden* (1928). In 1931 he directed, for F. Stuart Doyle, one of Australia's earliest sound feature films, *On our selection*, starring Bert Bailey. It was a remarkable success, and led to the creation of Cinesound, which he then managed, producing feature films and newsreels. Among the many successful feature films which Hall directed for the company were *The squatter's daughter* (1933), *Thoroughbred* (1936), *Tall timbers* (1937) and *Let George do it* (1938). *Kokoda front line*, shot by Damien Parer for Cinesound, won an Academy Award in 1943. In 1945 Hall

directed *Smithy*. It was successful, but after a visit to Britain Hall returned to Australia to find the local industry tottering. Cinesound was sold. Hall continued to produce newsreels ('Cinesound reviews') until in 1956 he joined Channel 9 television company in Sydney, to work for Frank Packer as an executive. He retired in 1966.

CHRIS CUNNEEN

**HALLSTROM, Sir Edward John Lees** (1886–1970), businessman and philanthropist, was a pioneer manufacturer of refrigerators and a major benefactor of Sydney's Taronga Park Zoo, of which he became an honorary life director.

**HAMMOND, Dame Joan** (1912–), opera singer, was a champion NSW golfer before going to study singing in Vienna in 1936. From 1946 to 1964 she sang with most major opera companies and from 1971 to 1976 she was artistic director of the Victorian Opera.

**HANCOCK, Langley George** (1909–), mining magnate, was born and educated in Perth. In 1934 he claimed leases for blue asbestos in Wittenoom Gorge, forming Australia Blue Asbestos Ltd in 1943. A qualified pilot, Hancock made major discoveries of iron ore from the air, establishing claims to deposits in the Pilbara region of WA. Through agreements with large mining companies, Hancock's discoveries were the basis of Australia's iron-ore industry. Politically, Hancock has been involved with the Westralian secession movement and has caused controversy over his attitudes to Aborigines. He has written a book on Australia's future called *Wake up Australia*.

**HANCOCK, Sir (William) Keith** (1898–), one of Australia's most eminent historians, was born in Melbourne and educated at the universities of Melbourne and Oxford. He was professor of modern history at Adelaide (1924–33) and Birmingham (1933–44), professor of economic history at Oxford (1944–49), and director of the Institute of Commonwealth Studies at the University of London 1949–57 before returning to Australia as the first director of the Research School of Social Sciences (1957–61) and professor of history (1957–65) at the Australian National University. His many works include the classic *Australia* (1930) and a two-volume biography of Jan Smuts (1962, 1968).

**HANNAN, Patrick** (1842–1925), prospector, migrated from Ireland to the goldmines of Ballarat and Bendigo in 1863 and moved west across Australia following the gold rushes. In 1893 near Coolgardie, WA, Hannan and others discovered gold and Hannan's claim began the Kalgoorlie gold rush.

**HARDY, Francis Joseph (Frank)** (1917–), writer, was born in Vic and worked at various jobs before turning to writing. A communist since 1939, Hardy has written many short stories and novels, often focusing on the struggles of working people and Aborigines, and his books have been translated into many languages. His 1950 novel *Power without glory* sparked controversy and court proceedings for libel and has remained his best-known work.



*Lang Hancock developed the enormously rich iron-ore deposits in Western Australia generating enormous wealth for himself, the state and the country. Screen print 1977 by Mandy Martin, depicting Hancock against a photo montage of left-wing images of the period.*

NATIONAL GALLERY

**HARGRAVE, Lawrence** (1850–1915), aviator, was born in England and joined his father in NSW on 15 December 1865. Intended for the legal profession, but failing to matriculate, he was apprenticed in the engineering shops of the Australian Steam Navigation Company in 1867. From 1872 to 1877, when he was elected to the Royal Society of NSW, Hargrave was engaged in a series of expeditions to New Guinea. After serving as extra observer (astronomical) at Sydney Observatory from 1877 to 1883, he then concentrated on his research into the principles of flight, achieving his first successful experiment on 31 December 1884. On 12 November 1894 Hargrave, using four box kites, lifted himself 4.8 metres above the ground at Stanwell Park. Although never achieving controlled manned flight, Hargrave produced a body of aeronautical knowledge which was freely used by many aviation pioneers. He died of peritonitis in 1915.

J.D. WALKER

**Further reading** W.H. Shaw and O. Ruhen, *Lawrence Hargrave: explorer, inventor and aviation experimenter*, Sydney 1977; J.D. Walker, *Lawrence Hargrave: Australia's pioneer aeronautical scientist*, Canberra 1984.



Hargraves discovering gold. Such pictures fuelled the fiction that Hargraves, rather than his assistants, was responsible for discovering the first payable quantities of gold. A Garran (ed), *Picturesque Atlas of Australasia*, 1886–88.

ANDERSON COLLECTION

**HARGRAVES, Edward Hammond** (1816–91), gold-rush publicist, was born in England and arrived in Sydney in 1832. After a spell on the Californian goldfields, he returned to Sydney in January 1851, planning not to find gold, which was well known to exist, but to claim the government reward for discovering a payable goldfield. Having found a few specks of gold, he taught John Lister and three of the Tom brothers, William, James and Henry, Californian panning techniques and how to make and use a wooden cradle, and then returned to Sydney. Encouraged by news from the Toms, Hargraves established his claim to the reward, whipped up enthusiasm among goldseekers in Bathurst, and created the first gold rush to an area he called Ophir. He received £10 000 reward, a pension and many trophies. He met the Queen, lived in style, produced a book, *Australia and its gold fields*, built a fine house and entertained lavishly, but was virtually penniless by the early

1860s. He died on 29 October 1891 shortly after an enquiry found that 'Messrs Tom and Lister were undoubtedly the first discoverers of gold obtained in Australia in payable quantity'. BRUCE MITCHELL

**Further reading** G. Blainey, *The rush that never ended*, Melbourne 1963.

**HARPUR, Charles** (1813–68), poet and critic, was born at Windsor, NSW. He received little formal education but read widely. From 1833 he held a series of odd jobs and from 1859 to 1866 he was a highly successful assistant gold commissioner on the southern goldfields. Harpur saw his true vocation as that of Australia's first poet and his contributions to the periodical press were more numerous than any other Australian writer of the period. His published works include *Songs of Australia* (c1851) and *A poet's home* (1862).

**HARRIS, Alexander** (1805–74), spent sixteen years in Australia working as a cedar-getter and ‘emigrant mechanic’. After his return to England in 1840 he published *Settlers and convicts*, an important documentary account of the new colony and a free working man’s experience of it. *The emigrant family*, a novel of hardship and adventure in Australia, was published in 1849.

**HARRIS, Rolf** (1930– ), has been a popular entertainer, especially in Britain, since the 1960s, producing hit songs and television shows. He has been feature performer on important occasions, notably at the 1982 Commonwealth Games in Brisbane. His first hit record was ‘Tie me kangaroo down’ in 1960.

**HARRISON, Henry Colden Antill** (1836–1929), founder of Australian Rules football, was a champion sprinter and hurdler. Melbourne’s first football club was founded by his cousin in 1858 and Harrison played in the early games. He also drafted a new set of rules for the game, which probably evolved from Gaelic football. It incorporated the distinctive features of the Australian game: no tripping or ‘hacking’, no ‘off-side rule’, the ‘mark’ and carrying the ball. The rules were adopted in Vic in 1866.

**HARTNETT, Sir Laurence John** (1898–1986), engineer and businessman, came to Australia in 1934 as managing director of General-Motors Holden’s Ltd. After building up the company and laying the foundations for the production of the Holden car, Hartnett resigned in 1946 to start his own business. He was unsuccessful in a venture to produce a small car, the Hartnett, and in attempts to organise a Japanese–Australian car, but remained important in the motor vehicle and aviation industries.

**HARVESTER JUDGMENT** Under the Excise Tariff Act 1906 the federal parliament provided as part of the government’s New Protection policy that local manufacturers were entitled to exemption from excise duty if the commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration certified that the wages paid by the manufacturer were ‘fair and reasonable’. In the first case to come before him, the second judge of the court, Henry Bournes Higgins, was approached by the large agricultural machinery manufacturer, H.V. MacKay, for an exemption under the act. In his decision handed down in November 1907 and subsequently known as the Harvester Judgment, Higgins decided to calculate a basic wage for unskilled adult male workers and their dependants ‘appropriate to the normal needs of the average employee regarded as a human being living in a civilised community’. After hearing evidence on the cost of living of a small number of families, Higgins declared that the appropriate wage to allow a worker to keep a household of ‘about five persons’ in some degree of ‘frugal comfort’ was 7s per day (£2 2s per week). At the time the wages paid by leading employers for unskilled work were about 6s 6d per day. Although Higgins claimed his decision was based on concrete enquiries into the cost of living, a number of writers have suggested that

Higgins decided on 7s per day because it was a long-standing aim of the trade union movement, and was also the level that Higgins believed would be settled by collective bargaining. While the Harvester Judgment was originally received with little enthusiasm by unionists, the principles which Higgins used to justify it were later accepted as a powerful argument for an inviolable minimum ‘living wage’. It also established the use of cost of living data in wage fixation under industrial arbitration.

ANDREW FRAZER

**Further reading** P. Macarthy, ‘Justice Higgins and the Harvester Judgement’, J. Roe (ed), *Social policy in Australia*, Sydney 1976; H. McQueen, ‘Higgins and arbitration’, E. Wheelwright and K. Buckley (eds), *Essays in the political economy of Australian capitalism*, 5, Sydney 1983.

**HASLUCK, Sir Paul Meernaa Caedwalla** (1905– ), politician and historian, was born at Fremantle, WA. From a humble Salvationist background, he was educated at Perth Modern School and the University of WA. While a journalist with the *West Australian* (1922–38), he ‘mucked about’ (as he put it in his autobiography) embracing theatre, local history, Aboriginal affairs, pantheism and poetry. Marriage to Alexandra Margaret Martin Darker on 14 April 1932 confirmed his rising social status and facilitated international travel.

During a period in the External Affairs Department from 1941 to 1947, Hasluck became Australian representative at the United Nations Organisation. At the University of WA in 1948–49, he began his two-volume history of Australian World War II civil administration, which shows a mastery of documentary evidence and breadth of vision. Anti-socialist, but uncommitted, he was elected to the House of Representatives for the Curtin electorate in 1949. His values were conservative and humanitarian. As minister for territories (1951–63) he improved the status of Aborigines and promoted education and administrative services in Papua–New Guinea. As minister for defence (1963–64) and for external affairs (1964–69) he improved Australia’s regional relationships and maintained conservative policy: the American alliance; global anti-communism; Australian military involvement in Vietnam.

Hasluck’s bid to become Liberal party leader and prime minister failed in 1968. The party, noting his identification with a minor state and minimal experience in domestic affairs, preferred J.G. Gorton. Some doubted his electoral appeal. This outweighed recognition of his integrity, intellect, and administrative grasp. Gorton nominated Hasluck as governor-general in 1969, in which post he served with dignity, reinforcing the formal role of the crown in government. His imperial honours included GCMG (1969), GCVO (1970) and the rarer Knight of the Garter (1979).

After retirement in 1974, Hasluck published his autobiography and showed a flair for historical analysis in recording his public life. He had found politics ‘drudgery’—being sustained by powerful commitment to duty. It may be that history will value

his literary works equally with his achievements in government.

LYALL HUNT

**Further reading** P. Hasluck, *Mucking about: an autobiography*, Melbourne 1977; *A time for building*, Melbourne 1976; *Diplomatic witness*, Melbourne 1980.

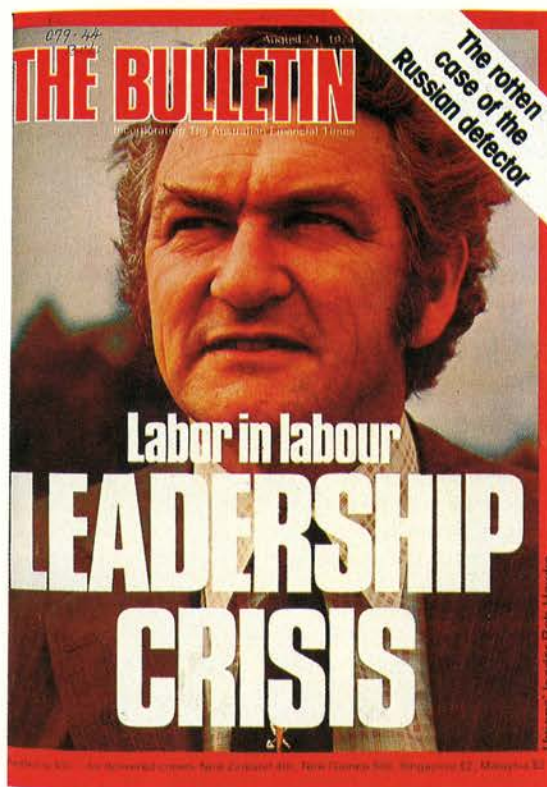
**HAWKE, Robert James Lee** (1929– ), trade union advocate and politician, was born at Bordertown, South Australia, the son of a Congregationalist minister. He was educated at Perth Modern School, entered the University of Western Australia and graduated in arts (majoring in economics) and law. He was subsequently a Rhodes scholar at Oxford University, graduating BLitt in 1955, with a thesis on the Australian arbitration and conciliation system. He took up a research scholarship at the Australian National University in 1956.

Attracted to labour politics and union activities, Hawke became a research officer and industrial advocate with the Australian Council of Trade Unions (ACTU) in 1958. He was elected president in 1970, a position he retained until his election to federal parliament in 1980. As president he put into practice his belief that unions could and should be agents of social reform. The ACTU became involved in business enterprises that shared profits among worker shareholders and confronted the issue of restrictive trade practices. Hawke gained a reputation as a negotiator in the settlement of serious industrial disputes.

A long-standing member of the Australian Labor Party (ALP), Hawke became its national senior vice-president in 1971 and was its president from 1973 to 1978. From his position as dual president (ACTU and ALP), he could criticise ALP policy and performance, particularly during the Whitlam period. He had stood unsuccessfully for the Victorian federal seat of Corio in 1963. While not a candidate, he campaigned vigorously for the party in elections in 1972, 1974 and 1975. Gough Whitlam suggested in 1975 that Hawke enter parliament; he did not, however, win preselection until 1979, for the seat of Wills (Vic) on a base of Centre Unity support. He became opposition spokesman for industrial relations, employment and youth affairs.

He was narrowly defeated in a bid for party leadership in July 1982. In February 1983, Hawke was elected party leader after Bill Hayden stepped down and, after a landslide ALP victory at the ensuing poll, became prime minister.

As prime minister, he has advocated a considerable measure of government intervention in the economy on a long-term, planned and co-ordinated basis. He has also advocated an industrial relations policy based on co-operation between unions and employers. The so-called 'politics of consensus', and the National Economic Summit of mid-1983 produced a prices and incomes accord. Since re-election with a comfortable but reduced majority in December 1984, his government has been seen by many within the ALP as deserting some Labor principles for pragmatism, particularly regarding uranium mining and Aboriginal land rights. His approach to international issues has also been seen as pragmatic. Honours have included the



During the Whitlam years, Bob Hawke won a place on the Bulletin's cover – though the Bulletin remarked that he was 'completely impotent in the big disputes'. Bulletin, 24 Aug 1974.

Companion of the Order of Australia in 1979, co-winner of the United Nations Media Peace Prize in 1980, and an honorary fellowship of University College, Oxford, in 1984.

**Further reading** B d'Alpuget, *Robert J. Hawke: a biography*, Melbourne 1982.

**HAYDEN, William George** (1933– ), politician, was a Qld policeman before entering federal parliament in 1961. His distinguished political career has included the portfolios of social security and later treasury in the Whitlam Labor government (1972–75). Opposition leader from Whitlam's resignation in 1977 to 1983 when R.J.L. Hawke took over, he has held the post of minister for foreign affairs since Labor's return to power in 1983.

**HAZZARD, Shirley** (1931– ), author, was born in Sydney and still retains a keen interest in Australian politics and culture despite being an expatriate since 1947. Manhattan, New York, is her usual home. However, her best-selling novel, *The transit of Venus*, (1980), which won the US National Book Critics Circle Award in 1981, is set partly in Sydney. She has also written several other novels and books of short stories, as well as her political history, *Defeat of an ideal: a study of the self-destruction of the United Nations* (1973).

**HEAGNEY, Muriel Agnes** (1885–1974), feminist and trade unionist, was employed as a teacher and a clerk before working on the Federated Unions of Australia's submission to the commonwealth royal commission on the basic wage between 1919 and 1920. She subsequently prepared cost-of-living schedules for the Clothing Trades Union in its submissions for a uniform basic wage. All Heagney's major endeavours centred on equal pay for women; she saw economic inequality as women's main obstacle to the achievement of equality of opportunity and status. During the Depression she formed the Unemployed Girls' Relief Movement and in 1935 published *Are women taking men's jobs?* to counteract prejudice against the employment of women. She continued to work for the labour movement and to write, but died forgotten and impoverished.

**HEIDELBERG SCHOOL**, a term applied to a group of artists who were the first to attempt to paint in a distinctively Australian style. It takes its name from a Melbourne suburb in the Yarra valley. Tom Roberts, Frederick McCubbin, Arthur Streeton and Charles Conder set up an artists' camp there in the late 1880s, each producing a series of impressionist *plein-air* paintings which strongly influenced later Australian artists. Dwelling on the uniqueness of the Australian landscape, and dealing with subjects emphasising Australian life, their paintings paralleled the nationalistic literature then being published in the *Sydney Bulletin*.

**HEINZE, Sir Bernard Thomas** (1894–1982), conductor and musical administrator, was born at Shepparton, Vic, and first appeared as a violinist at the age of nine. Educated at Ballarat and the University of Melbourne Conservatorium, he won a scholarship to the Royal College of Music in London in 1912. After war service he continued his studies in Paris and Berlin. From 1925 to 1956 he was Ormond Professor of Music at the University of Melbourne, and from 1957 to 1966 director of the NSW Conservatorium. His conducting career was successful, with several overseas tours, and his contribution to Australian musical education was outstanding. He gave the first orchestral concerts for children in 1924, conducted school concerts for the ABC from 1932 and inaugurated the ABC Youth Concert Series which still continues. He strongly influenced the development of Australia's full-time orchestras, and chaired important administrative and grant committees after his retirement. He was knighted in 1949.

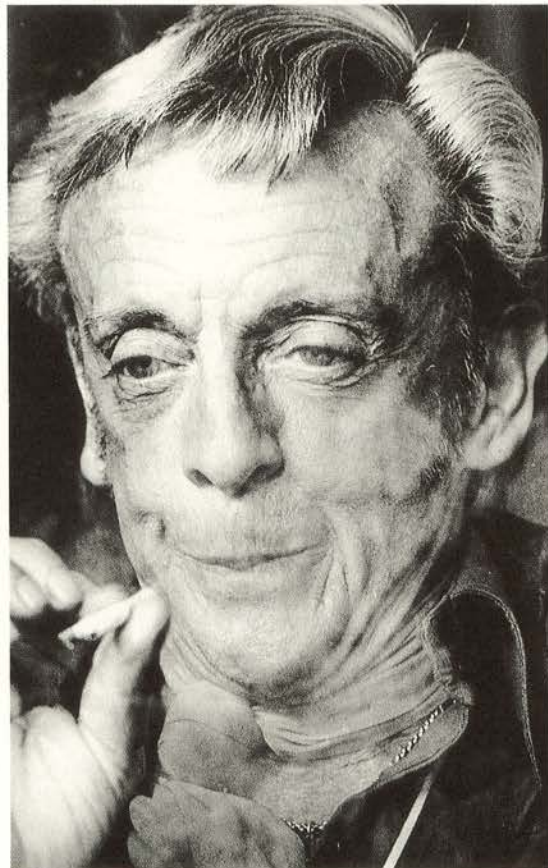
**HELPMANN, Sir Robert Murray** (1909–86), Australia's most versatile theatre performer, was born at Mount Gambier, SA, and started dancing lessons in Adelaide at the age of five. Regular theatre-going and professional performances from the age of twelve led in 1926 to Helpmann's studying and touring with Pavlova, followed by roles in musicals.

Going to London in 1933, Helpmann became principal male dancer with the Vic-Wells (now the Royal Ballet), partnering Fonteyn; his numerous created roles included those in his own works, *Comus* (1942),

*Hamlet* (1942), *Miracle in the Gorbals* (1944) and *Adam Zero* (1946). A strong dramatic dancer who made a contribution essential to the growth of British ballet, he retired in 1950. Helpmann also choreographed for plays and musicals, and acted in Shakespearian productions (Oberon, Shylock and Hamlet were among his most famous roles) and modern drama. He made the first of some twenty films in 1942, and produced operas, including *Madame Butterfly* (London, 1950) and *Alcina* (Sydney, 1983); plays, among them *Murder in the cathedral* (London, 1953); a pantomime, *Aladdin* (London, 1959); and ballets in Paris (1960), New York (1971) and Australia (1973–79). A Shakespearian tour in 1955 led to renewed Australian contact and his eventual return.

As co-director with Peggy van Praagh of the Australian Ballet (1965–74) and director (1975–76), Helpmann vitally stimulated the development of Australian dance; he created four ballets, including *The display* (1964), and produced *The merry widow* (1975), which was a huge success. In 1970 he directed the Adelaide Festival.

Helpmann's productions and performances embodied his belief in the fundamental importance of the



*Sir Robert Helpmann in 1969 when he was co-director with Peggy van Praagh of the Australian Ballet and was planning the Adelaide Festival of 1970.*

FAIRFAX PHOTO LIBRARY

dramatic element in theatre and his philosophy that 'all art, no matter how highbrow, should be entertainment'. His decorations and awards, which include the Order of the Cedars (Lebanon, 1956), Knight, Northern Star (Sweden, 1957), CBE (1964), Australian of the Year (1966) and Knight Bachelor (1968), indicate the international appeal which was one of his most significant contributions to Australia and its theatre.

ALAN BRISSENDEN

**Further reading** M. Helpman, *The Helpman family story (1796–1964)*, Adelaide 1967; K. Walker, *Robert Helpmann*, London 1957; E. Salter, *Helpmann: the authorised biography*, Brighton 1978.

**HENNING, Rachel Biddulph (1826–1914)**, letter writer, travelled to Australia in 1850 to join her brother, but because of her intense dislike for the

country and her homesickness she returned to England. However, in 1861 she again joined her brother, who had acquired a run in the South Kennedy district, Qld. This time she loved Australia and station life. Her letters, although never intended for publication, were published in the *Bulletin* in 1951–52. Written between 1853 and 1882 and addressed mostly to her sisters Etty and Amy, these letters were full of vivid descriptions and shrewd observations of people, and provide a valuable picture of colonial life.

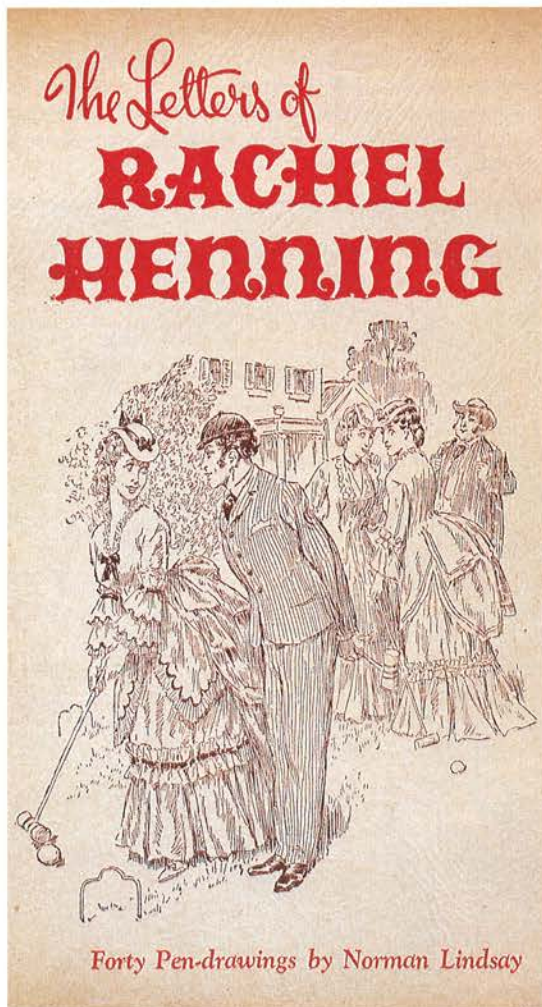
**HENRY, Alice (1857–1943)**, feminist and journalist, was born in Vic and educated in Melbourne, where she matriculated in 1874 from a ladies' college whose director was known for his advanced educational ideas. Denied access to university, and needing to earn her own living, she tried teaching and then journalism. Her first article appeared in 1884 and over the following two decades she wrote about a variety of social causes including care of the handicapped, juvenile courts and women's hospitals. In 1905 she travelled to England and then the United States where she spoke about women's suffrage and labour legislation. She was invited to join the National Women's Trade Union League of America in Chicago, and soon became a key figure and a powerful public speaker. She wrote two books *The trade union women* (1915) and *Women and the labour movement* (1923). She became an American citizen in 1923 but the Depression brought her reluctant and permanent return to Australia. Despite an earlier retirement from active work, she became involved in social movements again, including the Playgrounds' Association.

**HENTY, Edward (1810–78)**, settler, arrived at Launceston from England in 1832 with his father, Thomas Henty, a successful sheep-breeder. Thomas established a successful stock-raising property in Launceston, but Edward and his brothers Stephen and Francis sought to extend the family's land ownership by squatting on land at Portland Bay on the mainland. In 1834 Edward began the pastoral settlement of the Port Phillip district and by 1842 the brothers had extended their sheep runs inland and settled on some 43 000 hectares around the Wannon River.

**HERBERT, Alfred Francis Xavier (1901–84)**, writer, qualified as a pharmacist at the University of Melbourne. He worked as a chemist and at a variety of bush jobs in between writing his enormous and powerful novels *Capricornia* and *Poor fellow my country*. The latter novel won the Miles Franklin Award in 1975. A deep concern for Aborigines and indignation at their treatment by white society pervades Herbert's work.

**HERBERT, Sir Robert George Wyndham (1831–1905)**, politician, arrived in Brisbane from England in 1859 as colonial secretary to the governor, Sir George Bowen. The following year he was elected Qld's first premier unopposed, and he served a six-year term as an able administrator. He is commemorated by Qld placenames including the Herbert River.

**HERMAN, Sali (Sali Yakubowitsch) (1898–)**, artist, studied in Paris and exhibited in Zurich in 1918. In



The Letters of Rachel Henning, published in Sydney in 1952, were illustrated with pen drawings by Norman Lindsay. The letters were written between 1853 and 1882, mainly to Rachel's sisters Etty, in England, and Amy, in Australia.

CORNSTALK BOOKSHOP



Authors Xavier Herbert and Kylie Tennant. Undated photograph.

NATIONAL LIBRARY

1923 he began dealing in art and travelled extensively before settling in Sydney in 1938. An official war artist (1945–46), he has won many prizes, including the Wynne and Sulman prizes several times, and is represented in all major Australian galleries.

**HEYSEN, Sir Wilhelm Ernst Hans Franz** (1877–1968), artist, left Germany for SA with his parents at the age of six. In 1899 a group of Adelaide businessmen, impressed by his early drawings, advanced him £400 to study in Europe. He returned four years later and settled at Hahndorf in the Mount Lofty Ranges. He portrayed the Australian landscape through rural scenes and eucalypt forests and achieved great popularity. He was awarded the Wynne Prize nine times between 1904 and 1932 and was knighted in 1959.

**HIGGINS, Henry Bourne** (1851–1929), politician and judge, was born at Newtownards, County Down, Ireland. In 1869, following the death of the eldest son James, from consumption, the family emigrated to Vic.

Supporting himself by teaching and tutoring, Higgins studied arts and law at Melbourne University. After a successful career at the equity Bar, he entered the Vic legislative assembly in 1894 as Liberal member for Geelong and supporter of the Turner government. In 1897 he was elected as a delegate to the Federal Convention, but opposed the constitution it proposed as being too undemocratic and inflexible. His opposition to the Boer War led to his defeat in Geelong in

1900, but in 1901 he was elected to the federal parliament, with Labor support, representing North Melbourne. In 1904, though not a member of the Labor party, he became attorney-general in the shortlived Watson government.

Deakin appointed Higgins to the high court in 1906, and he became president of the Commonwealth Arbitration Court in 1907, soon after which he brought down the Harvester Judgment, founding the family-oriented basic wage. In his fourteen years as president, Higgins did much to establish industrial arbitration as a part of the Australian way of life. In 1921 he resigned as president, in protest against Prime Minister Hughes's industrial policy; 1922 saw the publication of his apologia, *A new province for law and order*.

Throughout his career Higgins had been characterised as a rebel and dissenter, yet he was also a successful colonist who made a significant contribution as a social reformer and progressive judge.

JOHN RICKARD

Further reading J. Rickard, *H.B. Higgins: the rebel as judge*, Sydney 1984.

**HIGH COURT**, embodied in the Australian constitution, was founded after the passing of a judiciary bill in 1903. Three justices, appointed by the commonwealth, sat on the Bench from 1903 to 1906. Two additional justices were appointed in 1906 and a further two in 1913. Until the opening of the high court building in Canberra in 1980, the court operated primarily in Sydney and Melbourne unless visits to other capitals were required.

The precedents set and decisions made by the high court are binding on all courts in the land, theoretically enabling the Australian legal system to achieve greater uniformity. The court functions as a federal supreme court: in theory it can hear appeals from all courts in Australia on all matters. The right of appeal against its decisions to the Privy Council in England was limited by the Liberal–Country party government in 1968 and abolished by the Labor government in 1975.

Independent of the executive, parliament and government, the court can declare legislation void, restrain the executive council, and offer interpretations on the constitution. Its interpretations have generally favoured the commonwealth since 1920. Notable exceptions, however, were its opposition to the Labor government's efforts to nationalise banking and other activities in the 1940s, and its disallowance of Prime Minister Robert Menzies' Communist Party Dissolution Bill in 1951.

BERNARD O'NEIL

**HIGINBOTHAM, George** (1826–92), politician and chief justice of Vic, was born in Dublin, studied at Lincoln's Inn in 1848 and was called to the London Bar in 1853. He migrated to Melbourne in December 1853 and was admitted to the Vic Bar in 1854. He was appointed editor of the *Argus* in 1856, but resigned in 1859 owing to incompatibility of his views and those of its proprietors. He was elected to the legislative assembly in 1861, was appointed attorney-general in



1863, and chaired a royal commission on education in 1866. He lost his seat in 1871, was re-elected in 1873, but resigned in 1876, frustrated by political stonewalling. During his parliamentary career, Higinbotham became a power in cabinet and was respected by both parties. In 1880 Higinbotham was made a supreme court judge, and in 1886 became chief justice. In 1890 he completed the consolidation of the statute law of Vic, for which he refused payment and was accorded the thanks of both houses of parliament. Higinbotham consistently promoted the principle of colonial independence in domestic affairs and refused offers of imperial awards.

**HILL, Alfred Francis** (1870–1960), composer, studied at Leipzig Conservatorium and adopted its professional, conservative approach. He settled in Sydney in 1910 and taught at the NSW Conservatorium. Influenced by Celtic, Maori and Aboriginal music he composed prolifically, producing operatic, choral, symphonic, concerted and chamber music. A noted conductor and chamber player, Hill was important in the development of Sydney music both as a pedagogue and a participant.

**HILL, Ernestine** (1899–1972), writer, spent many years travelling the remote outback of Australia. Her best-known works, *The great Australian loneliness* and *The territory*, describe these wanderings, but she also published fiction, verse and history, all concentrating on Australia.

**HINKLER, Herbert John Louis (Bert)** (1892–1933), aviator, went to England from Qld in 1913. He enlisted in the Royal Naval Air Service, becoming a pilot and decorated officer. In the 1920s Hinkler won air races, made record flights, and received many prizes and decorations and acclaim as 'Britain's leading aviator'. He made the first solo flight from Britain to Australia in 1928, but was killed on a similar flight in 1933.

**HIRE PURCHASE** A form of hire purchase was adopted about 1860 when retailers began to provide credit for their goods on a formalised basis involving interest and agreed repayments, as opposed to simply putting purchases 'on the slate'. Such formal credit arrangements became increasingly the preserve of specialised financial institutions, although major



*Hans Heysen's Murray River cliffs, watercolour 1916, is less familiar than his paintings of semi-arid landscapes in the Flinders Ranges, SA.*

NEW ENGLAND REGIONAL ART MUSEUM

growth did not occur until the advent of motor vehicles and household electrical appliances in the twentieth century. Australian Guarantee Corporation, controlled by the Bank of NSW, was set up in 1925 specifically to provide instalment credit for purchasers of cars. State legislation concerning hire purchase contracts was introduced in the 1930s after events connected with the Great Depression brought undesirable aspects of existing arrangements to public and government attention. Peak hire-purchase debts of £29 million existed in 1938, followed by a slump during the war and then rapid growth since the 1950s: the debt had reached £550 million by 1960. Beginning with SA in 1973, legislation was introduced in all states to protect customers through regulation of the finance industry.

**HOAD, Lewis Alan** (1934–), tennis player, was one of the players who made the transition from amateur to professional tennis. He came within one match of the Grand Slam in 1956, and held all the major titles at different times. Acknowledged as one of Australia's greatest players, he turned professional in 1957 and has coached since 1968.

**HOBBS, Sir Joseph John Talbot** (1864–1938), architect and soldier, migrated from London to Perth in 1887 and set up practice as an architect. He became secretary and later president of the WA Institute of Architects in 1896 and was responsible for many public and private buildings in Perth and Fremantle. Hobbs joined the Volunteer Field Artillery in Perth in 1887 and trained in gunnery in Britain and Australia. His distinguished military career encompassed command of the artillery of the 1st Division, Australian Imperial Forces at Gallipoli in 1915 and command of the Australian Corps in France in 1918. Appointed KCMG in 1919, he received numerous military honours. His two careers combined in 1929 in his design of the WA war memorial.

**HOBBY FARMS**, rural properties run by city people, date back to the farms early colonial officials ran while retaining government positions. 'Pitt Street' and 'Collins Street' farmers—wealthy businessmen with rural retreats—had entered the Australian lexicon by the early twentieth century. Hobby farming by ordinary citizens came later, when the 1960s idea of 'alternative lifestyles' began persuading wage earners to move to small rural properties within commuting distance of their urban jobs.

**HODDLE, Robert** (1794–1881), surveyor, spent over ten years surveying towns and roads in NSW before arriving at Port Phillip in 1837. Appointed senior surveyor he was responsible for the design of Melbourne's wide boulevards. Hoddle went on to plan towns throughout Vic including Geelong and Williamstown. With Vic's separation from NSW in 1851 he became surveyor-general. Two years later, however, disagreements with the governor caused him to retire.

**HOLDEN**, the first mass-produced motor car designed and built for Australian conditions. General



The new *Holden*<sup>\*</sup>  
Australia's Own Car

*Before World War II almost all Australian motor vehicles were imported. General Motors entered the local market by a take-over of Holden. Soon Australia had too many local manufacturers, and in the 1980s methods were sought to reduce their number. Australia to-day, 1957.*

Motors-Holden's Ltd, a company formed in 1931 as a result of a merger between General Motors (Australia) Pty Ltd and former carriage specialists Holden Motor Body Builders, began manufacture of the new car in 1948 at its SA plant. The first model Holden was a six-cylinder, four-door sedan rear-wheel drive car. Subsequently a utility truck model was produced.

**HOLMAN, William Arthur** (1871–1934), politician, joined the Labor party in 1891 and at the 1898 state elections won the seat of Grenfell, NSW. He studied law and was called to the Bar in 1903, later becoming a distinguished KC. In 1905 he became deputy leader of the NSW Labor party and five years later was appointed attorney-general and minister of justice in the McGowen ministry. Holman became premier in 1913 and served a six-year term spanning the war years and marked by the conscription debate. His campaign for a 'Yes' vote led to his expulsion from the Labor party in 1916 and to his formation of a Nationalist party and ministry. He lost his seat in the 1920 election when Labor was returned to power.

**HOLMES, William** (1862–1917), soldier, was born in Vic Barracks, Sydney and became one of Australia's most eminent citizen soldiers. He joined the 1st Infantry Regiment, NSW Military Forces as a bugler at the age of ten and rose through the ranks until he commanded it in 1903. He left a successful public service career to volunteer for active service in the Boer War in 1899 and was later awarded the DSO. At the outbreak of World War I Holmes was chosen to command the Australian Naval and Military Expedition-

ary Force which in 1914 captured German New Guinea. He later commanded the 5th Brigade at Gallipoli and then at Flanders where he was mortally wounded.

**HOLMES A COURT, Michael Robert Hamilton** (1937– ), businessman, is chairman and chief executive officer of Bell Group Ltd, a Perth-based media, resources and building equipment conglomerate. He is reputed to be Australia's wealthiest man. He was born in Johannesburg, South Africa, of British parents, and attended university in New Zealand before settling in Perth and studying law there. His legal practice thrived during the WA resources boom. His first takeover was the purchase for \$75 000 of a controlling interest in an insolvent textile firm, the cheapest company then listed on the Perth exchange. Since August 1983 he has launched a series of bids for Australia's biggest company, Broken Hill Proprietary Co.

**HOLT, Harold Edward** (1908–67), entered federal parliament in 1935 and in 1939 joined the ministry of the first Menzies government. In the second Menzies government (1949–66) he served variously in the labour and national service, immigration and treasury portfolios, then succeeded to the prime ministership and Liberal party leadership on Menzies' retirement. He took greater interest in Asian affairs than had Menzies, and his government was the first to relax the 'White Australia' policy. After visiting the United States in 1966 to meet the president, Lyndon Johnson, he coined the phrase 'all the way with LBJ' to sum up his intention of increasing Australia's commitments to the Vietnam War, thus allowing the growing anti-war movement to accuse him of being uncritically subservient. He drowned while swimming in the surf near Portsea, Vic, in December 1967.

**HOLTERMANN, Bernhardt Otto** (1838–85), gold-miner and pioneer photographer, migrated from Germany to Sydney in 1858 and headed for the NSW goldfields. With his partner, Louis Beyers, Holtermann struck a rich vein of gold at Hawkins Hill and in 1872 discovered the world's largest nugget of reef gold, which became known as 'the Holtermann nugget'. He used his fortune to build a mansion at Laverder Bay, North Sydney, and to finance photographic projects. The Holtermann panorama of 1875 is composed of 23 plates and gives a continuous view of Sydney Harbour and its suburbs. Holtermann became a member for St Leonards in the NSW parliament from 1882 until his death.

**HOMOSEXUALITY** Open physical and emotional relationships arising from sexual attraction between people of the same sex were not publicised in Australia until the 1970s. The criminal law of each state carried over from British law strict prohibitions against male homosexuality, and the penalties were generally harsh. In addition the social sanctions against either men or women suspected of being homosexuals were severe. Some estimates have put the number of homosexuals in the community at a fairly constant 10 per

cent of the adult population. An inference to be drawn from this is that, despite proscriptions against it, homosexuality has probably been widespread in Australia at least since European settlement, particularly in situations where members of the same sex live in close proximity, as in prisons, schools, the armed services, hostels and work camps.

Homosexuality was decriminalised in federal jurisdictions in 1973, in SA in 1975 and in Vic in 1980, by which time there was greater tolerance of homosexuality in the other states, even if legal sanctions against it remained in the statute books. The more tolerant attitude was in large part a result of action by members of the homosexual community, whose campaigning from the late 1960s focused public attention on what came to be known as 'gay rights'. Numerous organisations for homosexuals emerged, among the more influential being CAMP or the Campaign Against Moral Persecution. A broad range of facilities catering for homosexuals, such as clubs, bars, restaurants, shops and a gay press, developed in the larger cities, in particular Sydney, which acquired an international reputation as a centre of gay activities.

However, although opinion polls showed that by the 1980s a majority of Australians was opposed to anti-homosexual discrimination, resolute opposition remained in some quarters to further relaxation of the sanctions against homosexuality. Conservative religious bodies, notably the Festival of Light, senior officials of the Returned Services League and the Bjelke-Petersen National party government in Qld emerged as leading opponents of the gay movement. Critics of the movement blamed the greater tolerance of homosexuality for the spread of the disease AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome) during the 1980s.

**Further reading** D. Altman, *Homosexual: oppression and liberation*, Sydney 1972; *Coming out in the seventies*, Sydney 1979.

**HOOKER, Sir Leslie Joseph** (1903–76), businessman, established a real estate agency in 1928. By 1976 L.J. Hooker Ltd had 120 branches and was involved in large-scale cattle raising and property development. Hooker was an active worker for the welfare of deaf and blind children. He was knighted in 1973.

**HOPE, Alec Derwent** (1907– ), teacher and poet, studied medieval and modern languages and literature in Australia and at Oxford. After teaching at secondary and tertiary levels he was appointed foundation professor of English at the Australian National University. His six books of poetry display witty, beautifully crafted verse. He has also published collections of essays and criticism.

**HOPMAN, Henry Christian (Harry)** (1906–1985), tennis player and coach, was a distinguished Davis Cup team captain and champion doubles player who became a leading coach in the United States.

**HORDERN, Anthony** (1819–76), merchant, came to Sydney from London with his family in 1825. Hordern was educated by J.D. Lang and after a period in

Melbourne he returned to Sydney about 1844 and with his brother opened a drapery on Brickfield Hill. In 1855 he started his own business in the Haymarket. He speculated in real estate and some years later built himself Retford Hall on Darling Point. His sons took over the business, building it into a major department store housed in the 'Palace Emporium' in the Haymarket.

**HORNE, Donald Richmond** (1921–), writer, was a journalist in Sydney and England before founding the magazine *Observer* in 1958. Later editor of the *Bulletin* and *Quadrant*, he has been professor of political science at the University of NSW since 1984. He has written works of political and social analysis, most notably *The lucky country* and *Death of the lucky country*, novels, history, and his autobiography, *The education of young Donald* and *Confessions of a new boy*. Since 1975 he has been important in the republican movement. In January 1985 he became chairperson of the Australia Council.

**HORNET BANK MASSACRE** At dawn on 27 October 1857, about a hundred men of the local Jiman group raided Hornet Bank, a sheep station founded in 1853, and leased by a widow, Mrs Fraser, 48 kilometres west of Taroom on the Dawson River in central Qld. Immediately before this, some dogs and a Jiman

youth had been killed by Europeans, while other acts of violence and the sexual abuse of Aboriginal women had continued over a long period. Seeking revenge, a party of Aborigines murdered Mrs Fraser, four of her sons and three daughters, the children's tutor and two shepherds. Mrs Fraser and the two eldest daughters had also been raped; and sheep, food and goods were taken. One son then aged fourteen, Sylvester, survived; his brother, William, the manager, was absent.

In extracting retribution, the neighbouring settlers and the Native Mounted Police (Aboriginal troopers with European officers controlled from Sydney until 1859) indiscriminately massacred between 150 and 300 Aborigines, virtually exterminating the tribe. But revenge did not stop there: William was alleged to have subsequently killed more than a hundred Aborigines.

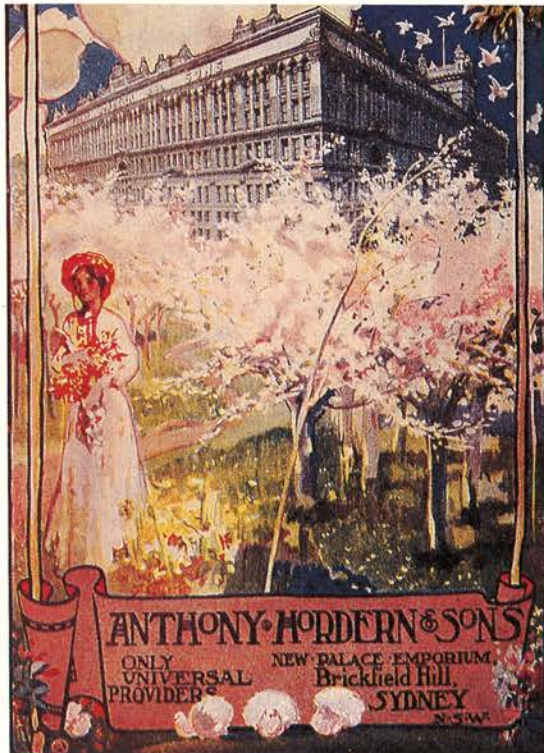
A select committee in 1858 expressed the view that such conflict was inevitable, and offered little advice on how to prevent it. Such individual and organised acts of violence on the frontiers were not isolated, and occurred in all the colonies, racial strife having been caused by the spread of European settlement and the dispersal of Aborigines from their land.

**Further reading** G. Reid, *A nest of hornets; the massacre of the Fraser family at Hornet Bank Station, central Queensland, 1857, and related events*, Melbourne 1982.

**HORSERACING** Like many sports in Australia, horseracing was initially organised by army officers in Sydney in the early 1800s. The Australian Jockey Club, formed in Sydney in 1842, acquired Randwick racecourse in 1859 and established some of Australia's leading races, including the AJC Derby (first run in 1861), the Sydney Cup, the Doncaster and the Metropolitan (all 1866). In Melbourne the Victorian Jockey Club was formed in 1864 and took over the running of the Melbourne Cup, while the Victorian Amateur Turf Club, formed in Ballarat in 1875, moved to Melbourne and established the Caulfield Cup in 1879. Today horseracing is Australia's biggest leisure industry.

**HOSKINS, Charles Henry** (1851–1926) and **Sir Cecil Harold** (1889–1971), manufacturers, were father and son. Charles established the Sydney engineering firm of G. & C. Hoskins with his brother George in 1903. They took over the Esbank ironworks at Lithgow in 1907 and, after initial industrial disputes, prospered during World War I. In 1924 Charles retired and his second son, Cecil Harold, became chairman. He completed the move from Lithgow to Port Kembla initiated by his father and in 1928 formed a new company, Australian Iron and Steel Ltd, which in 1935 became a subsidiary of BHP. He was also chairman of the Australian Mutual Provident Society, 1947–60, and closely linked with the United Australia Party. He was knighted in 1960.

**HOSPITALS** The construction of Australia's first hospital, on the west of Sydney Cove, began within several weeks of the arrival of the first fleet. It was demolished in 1797 and a new one built nearby at



Portfolio of spring and summer millinery fashions, advertisement by Anthony Hordern and Sons showing their new store at Brickfield Hill, Sydney. Lone hand, 2 Sept 1907.



*The home straight at a racecourse on the fringes of the growing town of Sydney. Race meeting at Petersham, watercolour by W. Scott, 1845.*

MITCHELL LIBRARY

Dawes Point. Soon after Governor Macquarie arrived in 1810 he ordered the building of a new general hospital, which was commonly known as the 'rum hospital' because the builders had been given a monopoly on rum imports to finance its construction. Other government hospitals were established in NSW and in other colonies as they were founded.

With the end of convict transportation to eastern Australia, colonial governments encouraged citizens' groups to be responsible for hospital provision. In 1848 a board of directors composed of prominent citizens took on the buildings of the rum hospital, which became a purely civilian institution and was henceforth known as the Infirmary. The name was changed to Sydney Hospital in 1881. Public hospitals founded and run by boards of influential and concerned citizens had opened in Adelaide and Perth in 1840, and in Melbourne in 1841. The churches also founded hospitals, beginning with St Vincent's Hospital, Sydney, opened in 1857 and run by the Sisters of Charity.

Gold-rush immigration brought a growing population seeking medical services, while the development of friendly societies made professional medical care accessible to ordinary citizens. More hospitals were founded, in small towns as well as major cities. Standards of hospital health care rose, aided by the inception of medical training in the universities and the emergence of the nursing profession during the 1860s. As a result of such developments, the basis of Australia's modern hospital system was established by the 1890s.

Government subsidisation of public hospitals became usual in the twentieth century. In 1929 the NSW government established a hospitals commission to set

subsidy levels and lay down the conditions of subsidisation. In succeeding decades similar agencies were established in other states, giving governments considerable control over public hospitals. This sometimes caused tensions between state governments and individual hospitals, which valued their independence and sought to retain the freedom to conduct research and offer specialised therapies as they saw fit.

After World War II, the federal government became increasingly involved in hospital finance. From 1946 the federal Labor government paid the states subsidies for their hospitals, in return for the free hospitalisation, with no means test, of public ward patients. In 1952 the Liberal-Country party government changed this system, introducing a voluntary health insurance program, under which the states imposed fees on public hospital patients, and commonwealth subsidies went to those with hospital insurance. This scheme remained the basis of commonwealth funding until 1975, when the Whitlam government's 'Medibank' health insurance program brought a return to free, non-means tested hospitalisation for public patients. By this time 20 per cent of public hospital revenue was coming from the federal government. The Fraser government subsequently stopped paying the states grants specially earmarked for hospitals, forcing them (Qld excepted) to eliminate free hospital service for many patients; however, a return to free hospitalisation came about in 1984 following the Hawke Labor government's introduction of 'Medicare'.

By 1984 Australia had 748 public and 338 private hospitals recognised under the Commonwealth Health Insurance Act. Together they provided 91 654

beds, or 5.9 beds for every 1000 of the population. In addition there were 1449 approved nursing homes providing 74 583 beds. Public hospitals ranged from the major teaching and referral hospitals of the capital cities, through the large suburban and provincial general hospitals, to smaller district and community hospitals. In addition there were various specialised public hospitals—children's, women's, war veterans', infectious diseases and psychiatric hospitals. There was similar diversity among private hospitals, which ranged from major general hospitals to small geriatric hospitals, and included those run as charities by religious or charitable foundations and those run for profit by commercial companies. IAN HOWIE-WILLIS

**Further reading** C. Grant and H.M. Lapsley, *The Australian health care system*, Sydney 1980.

**HOTHAM, Sir Charles** (1806–55), naval officer and governor, was born in Suffolk and joined the navy in 1818. As captain, he served with distinction on the South American and west African stations in the 1840s before being appointed lieutenant-governor of Vic in December 1853. On his arrival next June, he was at once embroiled in the troubles on the diggings which culminated in the Eureka rebellion. Nervous of extreme revolutionaries, he handled the rising unsympathetically, and though officially commended for suppressing the outbreak, he had lost the confidence of the Colonial Office by the time he resigned, a month before his death. A.G.L. SHAW

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES** is the legislative body of parliament designed to represent the national interest. Its members are directly chosen by the people of Australia and the number chosen in each state is in proportion to the population, provided that no original state has less than five members. The total number of members must, as nearly as practicable, be twice the number of senators. Elections are conducted under the preferential voting system.

The life of every House of Representatives is limited to three years from its first meeting, but the house may be dissolved sooner by the governor-general.

The political party or coalition of parties commanding a majority in the house has the right to form the executive government of the Commonwealth of Australia—that is, a body of ministers known as cabinet who are responsible to parliament for their actions. Ministers must be members of the house or the Senate. The minority becomes the opposition.

Under sections 51 and 52 of the constitution, both houses have the power to initiate, to amend or to reject legislation, although the bulk of legislation originates in the House of Representatives. The traditional power of the lower house in relation to financial matters is set forth in section 53. Section 57 of the constitution lays down the steps leading to a dissolution of both houses which may be initiated by the House of Representatives if the Senate rejects, or fails to pass, or passes with unacceptable amendments, a bill received from the house.

The House of Representatives is akin to the British House of Commons from which the privilege of free-

dom of speech and the principle of responsible government have been inherited.

The presiding officer of the house is the speaker, who must be a member of the house and who is elected by the members at the commencement of each parliament. The speaker has a casting vote only if the numbers are equal.

As the House of Representatives reflects the most recent political view of the people it plays a significant role in the affairs of the nation.

**HOUSING** The majority of Australia's first white settlers lived in tents, calico houses, simple earth-floor huts, and two-room cottages with raised verandas and rough chimneys, built from locally available materials, wattle and daub, bark, timber and stone. Only wealthy settlers could afford more substantial brick or stone houses with windows of imported glass.

The increase in population after the discovery of gold in 1851 created an intense housing shortage. In Vic, NSW, Qld and SA, one-fifth of the total population of one million were crammed into temporary huts and tents. By 1891 conditions had improved. Wooden houses still predominated in timber-rich Qld, but elsewhere brick and stone dwellings were more common, especially in the cities. Houses were larger, mostly of three to six rooms, less crowded, and permanent, though in rural areas itinerant railway, mining and pastoral workers and their families continued to live in tents and primitive huts.

At the turn of the century most Australians lived in inner suburbs of the cities, which expanded rapidly during the boom of the 1880s. The graceful mansions of the wealthy industrialists and pastoralists, and the fashionable two- and three-storey ornate terraces of the middle-class professionals occupied the most attractive areas. Boarding houses, residential and coffee palaces housed the single working population, while working men with families lived in the poorest areas in small terraces and single-storey cottages. Built by subdividers in the 1850s and often owned by absentee landlords, these dwellings were little more than slums. Most opened directly on to the street, had no backyards and no running water or sewerage connections. Slum reformers, concerned with appalling housing standards, linked poverty with poor physical conditions and advocated individual houses in the healthy surroundings of the wide open suburbs in preference to the cramped conditions of inner-city slums. Owning a detached house on a quarter-acre block of land became the aspiration of most Australians.

In the 1920s boom, red brick bungalows spread rapidly along the main tram and rail lines in the mainland capitals. Houses were built at much lower densities than in the nineteenth century. Electricity became widely available, gradually replacing gas for lighting. The building of blocks of flats increased, especially in Sydney's waterside suburbs.

Very few new houses were built during the depression or World War II, and by 1945 there was a serious housing shortage, exacerbated by the postwar influx of migrants and the 'baby boom'. An estimated

300 000 dwellings were required, including replacement of 'slum' stock. A Commonwealth-State Housing Agreement (1945) enabled state government housing authorities to build houses for rental with commonwealth funding. A new agreement in 1956 allowed houses to be sold to tenants, which resulted in a decline in rental stock at a time when little private rental investment took place because of rent control. Public housing estates in outer suburbs attracted considerable criticism, especially for their isolation and lack of community facilities.

The aspiration to home ownership, nurtured by successive federal and state governments through finance schemes for ex-servicemen and low interest home loans, is a distinctive feature of Australian housing. By the 1860s building societies were well established and playing a leading role in financing residential development, especially during the 1880s building boom. By 1911 half of all houses were owner-occupied, though the levels were lower in metropolitan than in non-metropolitan centres. Between 1921 and 1947 the proportion of owner-occupied dwellings fell in most states, the result of a boom in rental flats and the building recession during the depression and World War II. Home ownership increased in the 1950s, reflecting the relative cheapness of houses in that decade and the ready availability of finance, especially to returned servicemen. By



*The great Australian dream. Returning servicemen and newly-arrived immigrants faced a chronic housing shortage in postwar Sydney. With labour and materials in short supply, many young couples faced long delays before achieving their dream. Photograph, 30 Mar 1948. MAGAZINE PROMOTIONS*

## In defence of Australia ... BUILD HOUSES



## LABOR WILL BUILD HOMES FOR THE PEOPLE

*In the 1941 state election the New South Wales Labor party, led by William McKell, wooed voters with its promise to 'build homes for the people'. Labor won office and established the NSW Housing Commission.*

REEVES COLLECTION

1961, 70 per cent of private dwellings were owned or being purchased.

During the 1950s the rapid rise in car ownership meant that suburbs expanded away from the traditional public transport routes, and employers and retailers were encouraged to locate in suburban areas. Garages were an integral feature of houses. Fibrocement became a popular and cheap building material, especially with owner-builders. Electricity progressively replaced gas for cooking. Many houses remained unsewered, especially in Melbourne, Sydney and Perth.

In the 1960s, following the introduction of legislation in all states which allowed individual ownership of a flat under strata title, flat construction increased dramatically, both in the private sector and as part of slum redevelopment schemes by public housing authorities. Many blocks were of poor quality and badly designed, and provoked a violent public outcry, particularly against high-rise blocks. More stringent building regulations, the collapse of a number of finance companies in the mid-1970s, and the 1980s recession made flat-building less popular with developers.

Skyrocketing land prices in the 1970s reinforced growing inequities in the housing market. Low-income families looking to buy a house were forced to the outskirts of the cities where land was cheaper. Gentrification and the conversion of company title flats and boarding houses to owner-occupied dwellings placed tenants, a growing number of whom were single-parent families, at further disadvantage. Urban policies in the 1980s, aimed at maintaining populations and conserving rental stock in inner and middle-

ring suburbs with low-rise medium density town-houses and 'granny' flats, met with limited success. Owning a detached house remains the housing preference for the majority of Australian families.

RUTH THOMPSON

**Further reading** R. Boyd, *Australia's home: its origins, builders and occupiers*, Melbourne 1968 (1952); M. Neutze, *Urban development in Australia: a descriptive analysis*, Sydney 1981.

**HOVELL, William Hilton** (1786–1875), explorer, arrived in Sydney in 1813, established himself in business and took up a land grant at Narellan. He is credited with the discovery of the Burratorang valley (1823), and later mounted an expedition from Gunning to Port Phillip Bay with Hamilton Hume (1824–25). Hovell accepted greater credit for the expedition than he deserved, leading to a bitter quarrel with Hume that lasted the rest of their lives.

**HUDSON, Sir William** (1896–1978), hydroelectric engineer, was born in New Zealand and studied engineering at London University. After working on dams in NZ, Scotland and NSW he became commissioner of the Snowy Mountains Hydro-electric Authority from 1949 to 1967. A huge engineering feat, the Authority's scheme was finished five years early, largely due to Hudson's leadership. He was knighted in 1955 and elected a fellow of the Royal Society in 1964.

**HUGHES, Robert** (1938–), art critic, studied arts and architecture at Sydney University. In 1958 he was made art editor of the fortnightly *Sydney Observer* and was a long-time contributor to *Nation*. In 1964 he moved to Europe permanently. He is highly acclaimed in all facets of his career, as a contributor to prestigious British and American periodicals, broadcaster, documentary maker and artist. His major published works include *The art of Australia* and *The shock of the new*.

**HUGHES, William Morris** (1862–1952), politician, was born in London, and after a childhood spent partly in Wales he became a schoolteacher. In 1884, probably for health reasons, he migrated to Australia. He seems not to have wanted the life of a schoolteacher in the Antipodes, and after a difficult period, he settled in Sydney, married Elizabeth Cutts, opened a small shop and threw himself into Sydney's busy labour movement. He entered the NSW parliament in the Labor cause in 1894 and the new federal parliament in Melbourne in 1901.

In the years of peace to 1914, Hughes was very active in politics, serving as minister for external affairs in the brief Watson government of 1904 and as attorney-general in the Fisher governments of 1908 and 1910–13: he had qualified for the Bar in 1903. But he was also active in trade union affairs, and organised the creation of the Waterside Workers' Federation. Dedicated to improving the lot of the worker, and a fierce opponent of intransigent employers, Hughes

was nevertheless not a revolutionary, asserting 'White Australia', a strong defence posture and imperial loyalty.

Fisher won government in 1914 but stepped down in 1915, and was succeeded as Labor prime minister by Hughes who, after a visit to Britain, held a referendum in 1916 on conscription for overseas military service. The referendum was lost narrowly and Hughes was forced out of the Labor party, surviving in office at elections in 1917 as leader of the Nationalists, a merger of his old guard Labor followers and Liberals, though now he represented Bendigo in Vic. A second referendum in 1917 also failed, and the sectarian, ethnic and political venom stirred by these referendums held in the aftermath of the Irish rebellion was to stain Australian life for decades to come.

At the end of the war Hughes used Australia's 60 000 war dead to justify a separate presence for Australia at the peace conference in Versailles. Here he fought for German treasure in the form of reparations, control of what had been German New Guinea, and a 'white Australia'. He took Australia into the League of Nations as a founding member, as self-governing colonies were allowed membership.

Hughes led the Nationalists to electoral victory again in 1922, but they needed coalition with the new Country party which, alienated by his preservation of wartime controls on marketing of primary products, insisted on his replacement as leader by S.M. Bruce. Although he was to serve as a minister in the 1930s, and briefly as leader of the opposition in the early 1940s, and remained in parliament until his death in 1952 at the age of ninety, he was not again to wield great power.

He remained a figure of significance and even of increasing popularity in the country at large, as an eccentric little larrikin with a loud voice and a wicked tongue, but to the labour movement he was the great renegade and he was an isolated figure.

Hughes exemplified the respectable, if vitriolic, Protestant strand in the old Labor party—the founding generation largely innocent of ideology and zest for violent revolution, devoted to trade unionism and industrial conciliation and arbitration, parliamentary democracy and assertive nationalism, though retaining a lively sense of Britishness. He contributed significantly to the building of a strong unionism. He wrote and spoke with a panache which helped convince Australians that a party of, or at least for, working men could govern. He was one of the generation which forced Britain to treat settler societies, such as Australia, as mature states. He dragged Australia into the mainstream of international life. On the other hand, he was a fierce individualist who could not cope with the collective solidarity he had helped make a characteristic of the labour movement; he was divisive in his politicking, and it could be argued that Australia still has not quite recovered from his regime of 1916–17. Still, unlike many politicians, he probably believed much of what he preached. His own major publications were *The case for Labor* (1910), *The splendid adventure* (1929), *Australia and war to-day* (1935),





*Crusts and crusades* (1947), and *Politicians and potentates* (1950).  
W.J. HUDSON

**Further reading** L. F. Fitzhardinge, *That fiery particle 1862–1914: a political biography*. William Morris Hughes, Sydney 1964; *The little digger 1914–1952: William Morris Hughes, a political biography*, Sydney 1979; W. J. Hudson, *Billy Hughes in Paris*, Melbourne 1978; *Australia and the League of Nations*, Sydney 1980.

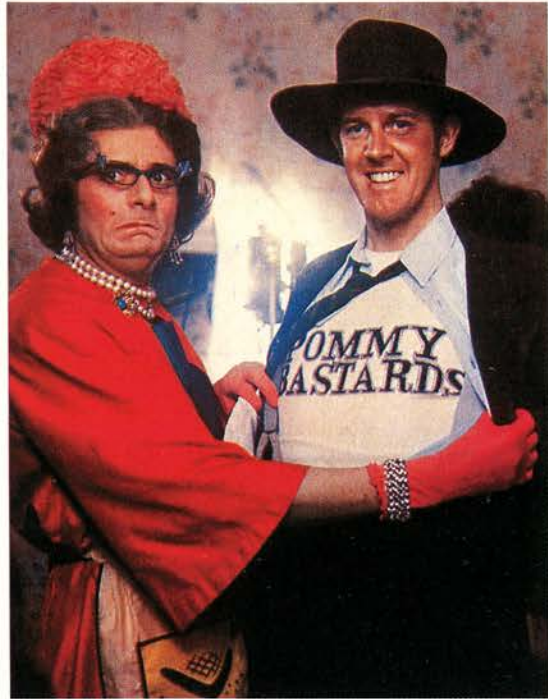
**HUME, Hamilton** (1797–1873), native-born explorer, discovered Lake Bathurst and the Goulburn Plains in 1818 and in 1822 the Yass Plains. In 1824–25, with Hovell, he led an expedition from Gunning to what both believed to be Westernport. Hovell provided navigational expertise, Hume bushmanship. The expedition discovered the Murray (which they named the Hume) and the river system of northeastern Vic. The party, in fact, arrived at Corio Bay rather than Westernport. Hume accompanied Charles Sturt on Sturt's 1828 expedition into the interior. In 1829 he took up land and settled in the Yass district where he became a magistrate. In 1860 he was elected a fellow of the Royal Geographical Society.

**HUMPHRIES, John Barry** (1934– ), actor and writer, grew up in Melbourne and has been a notable figure in Australian theatre for more than thirty years. His satirical shows include characters based on Australian 'types', the most famous being Dame Edna Everage, housewife superstar, and have been very popular in England and Australia. Humphries has also published books and made several films.

**HUNT, John Horbury** (1838–1904), architect, was born in St John, New Brunswick, and arrived in Sydney in 1863. Hunt jointed the staff of E. T. Blackett, the colony's leading architect and was, by 1865, Blackett's chief assistant. In 1869 Hunt set up his own practice and for 30 years produced highly individual buildings. His skill with timber and brickwork was particularly outstanding. Among his best ecclesiastical buildings is the Sacred Heart Convent, Rose Bay (1896); and his best domestic building is Tudor House, Moss Vale (1891).

**HUNTER, John** (1737–1821), naval officer and governor, was born at Leith, and joined the navy in 1754. He served in many ships and places before being appointed second captain in the first fleet sailing to found the colony of NSW, commanding HMS *Sirius*. In 1788–89 he sailed it round the world to obtain provisions for the settlement.

He was appointed governor in 1794 and ruled the colony from 1795 to 1800, but proved unable to control the New South Wales Corps or the illicit rum trade: he also drew criticism from London for allowing an excessive number of convicts to work for farmers to produce crops which the government had to buy. More positively he encouraged Bass, Flinders and Shortland on their voyages of exploration to Bass Strait and Newcastle. Recalled, he left Sydney in 1800, but though promoted rear- and vice-admiral, he saw no further active service.  
A.G.L. SHAW



*Edna Everage unveils the 'pommy bastard' attitudes of Barry McKenzie, alias Barry Crocker playing the title role in The adventures of Barry McKenzie. The film, based on Barry Humphries' and Nicholas Garland's comic strip in Private Eye, was made in London. Bulletin, 5 Feb 1972.*

**HURLEY, James Francis** (1885–1962), photographer and film maker, made his name with photographs and movies taken on Antarctic expeditions with Mawson and Shackleton. An official photographer in both world wars, he clashed with officials and other film makers over his unorthodox methods. His documentaries on Papua and New Guinea were popular if controversial. He accompanied another Antarctic expedition in 1929. An important influence on later film makers, he concentrated on photography after World War II.

**HYDE PARK BARRACKS** In the early years of the NSW penal settlement, convicts had to find their own lodgings. This meant they had to earn money to pay their rent, and were not under control outside their working hours. To remedy this, Gov Macquarie ordered the construction of a convict barracks off Hyde Park near what is now Queen Square. The building was designed by Francis Greenway, and was opened in June 1819. At first it housed 600 prisoners, but the number subsequently increased. The building was criticised because there was no way of 'classifying' the men according to age or character, with 70 men sleeping in hammocks in each of the long rooms. After being used for various public purposes, including for many years law courts, the barracks were recently restored to house a historical museum.

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