



INFORMATION NEWSLETTER

Number 112 – November 2016

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Our October meeting

Susan Rooney-Harding

Story catching using a smart phone

At our October meeting we enjoyed a fast-moving, and as someone said, stimulating talk from Susan Rooney-Harding. This talk was different to most, as instead of being a talk about history, we heard about new photographic ways of capturing it.

We heard that the background to the photo sometimes told a story of its own, while at other times it should be excluded to let the primary subject speak for itself. Capturing emotion is also an important part of photographing history, as is the need to keep the shots candid. Susan said that every subject has the potential to be beautiful, so we should think about what the subject is, and the camera can become a door by which we enter people's lives. The actions in the photo then generate a narrative.

Among Susan's 'phonography' tips were: touching the screen in the area you want to focus; using blutak as a tripod to steady the smart phone and using the editing apps available on the phone. Zooms and flashes are out – unless necessary. Combining techniques is in!

Among Susan's recommended techniques were: choosing an interesting subject; using silhouette images; including shadows in composition; using reflections to enhance images; taking photos from unique angles; and keeping the photo simple.

Altogether, it was an excellent presentation from an inspiring speaker.

Interesting and Unusual

The Wattle Bark Industry



Photos John Hoult

On a recent holiday to Tasmania I visited the 'Bark Mill Museum' in Swansea.

What is a Bark Mill and what was its purpose?

The wattle bark was stripped from the trees, collected and bark dried. When dried it was ground and bagged by a machine known as a "Bark Mill". The ground bark a source of tannic acid and is mixed by the tanners in pits which enabled various styles of tannin liquor to be brewed.

As the colonies grew, the demand for tannin supplies also increased. It was crucial for the emerging leather industry, especially footwear, where the key ingredients were reliable supplies of tannin, soft leather

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(Kangaroo & Wallaby skins) for the uppers, and tougher leather (Cowhide) for the soles.

The industry was not limited to Tasmania, an 1892 newspaper noted that “For some considerable time the wattle bark industry thrived in Tasmania” References to the industry also appear in South Australian papers of 1895.

From the Newspapers 100 Years Ago

The Register (Adelaide, SA : 1901 - 1929)
Monday 20 November 1916

THE AUSTRALIANS.

Attack With Dash

LONDON, November 17.

Capt. C. E. W. Bean, official press representative with the Australian forces in France, writes under date November 14:— At dawn this morning the Australians again attacked the German trenches near the bottom of the valley before Bapaume, which they failed to take last week. The attack was made largely by the same troops. The charge came on the Germans, like a whirlwind. The enemy troops in the line were the 5th Grenadier Guard Regiment. Every one of the prisoners taken told me afterwards that the vehemence of the Australian attack was overwhelming. They had met Australian troops near Mouquet Farm some months back. They all said that the Australians have established a reputation among the Germans of attacking with outstanding dash. Nearly the whole of the trench attacked was taken, though one portion, which was fully manned and prepared, met the attack with fire so heavy that it was impossible to reach it. Heavy shelling continued all day. Our troops were still holding on to the captured trenches after dusk; but the continual lurid flash and crash of shell, the showers of brilliant red and orange flames, and the incessant thunder of the guns showed that the struggle was by no means over. Far behind our wounded came, dreadfully slow and tired, out of the fight.

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News from the Marion Heritage Research Centre

The Heritage Centre has two more events before the end of the year:

ON THIS DAY IN HISTORY: 22nd NOVEMBER

Join Major Chris Roe for a lighter look at history ‘on this day’.

**Tuesday 22 November 2 - 4pm
at Marion Council Chamber
245 Sturt Rd, Sturt.**

No cost and free refreshments

1916 CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS AFTERNOON

Enjoy an afternoon of making
1916 Christmas decorations

**Monday 12 December 2 – 4pm
at the Heritage Centre**

No cost and free refreshments

Bookings for these events are essential

Please call us on 7420 6445 or email

heritage@marion.sa.gov.au

The MHRC will close for Christmas at 4pm on Wednesday 21st December and will re-open in the New Year on Monday 16th January 2017

Danielle and the Volunteers wish everyone a very happy Christmas and a peaceful and joyful new year.

For more information, please 7420 6455 or email heritage@marion.sa.gov.au

Marion Historical Society

**Our next meeting will take place on
Wednesday 20th February 2017
7.30pm at Cooina**

Tony Brooks

*‘Forgotten heroes and villains of
Australian history.’*



***Wishing you and those you love
a Merry Christmas and a
Happy and Healthy New Year***