



AURUM

Newsletter of the Gold
Museum Society
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**25th AGM of the
Gold Museum
Society
October Meeting**

The 25th AGM of GMS is to be held in the **Charlie Napier Hotel**, Sovereign Hill on Thursday, October 13th at 1.30pm. Our guest speaker will be Sovereign Hill's Museum Director, Brett Dunlop, who has titled his talk "What I've Learned About Museums: Confessions of a Museum Director". There are 16 long-service awards this year, including eight spanning the full 25 years.

A celebratory Afternoon Tea will be provided by Sovereign Hill. **Please join us for this important meeting.**

SEPTEMBER MEETING

The September General Meeting was held at Sovereign Hill and was a conducted tour of behind the scenes of 'Blood on the Southern Cross'. Tour Guide was Jarrod Ferguson from the Technical Services Department. The group walked from the Candle makers, south to the site where the activation takes place. In the Free Trade Hotel, seated in the audience seating provided, Jarrod explained how the audio visual, lighting, and pyrotechnics were programmed and continually being upgraded. The activation was originally started in December 1992, and cost 2 ½ Million dollars to set up. The burning of the Hotel was a later addition. 600 lights, 150 lighting fixtures, timed 'bangs,' rain and lighting of campfires, are all operated by remote control.



The 'Blood on the Southern Cross' area—an evocative image! Thanks to Vicky Lowe for photo

We then inspected the operations room, saw the lighting of the 'burning ammunition cart,' then walked up to the Eureka Hotel. This was set alight, and the system explained and demonstrated. After that an inspection inside the building showed how very clever the whole process was.

Joanne thanked Jarrod and Clayton on our behalf and expressed our appreciation for their excellent presentation and professionalism in maintaining this wonderful part of Sovereign Hill.

Everyone then walked back to the Sovereign Hill Cafeteria for a welcome coffee.

Many thanks to all involved for this informative and enjoyable afternoon.

Mary Clark

LONG SERVICE AWARDS

25 Years (1991)

Anne Beggs-Sunter, June Henderson, Bill Llewellyn, Nance Llewellyn, David Manning, Jane Miller, Shirley Prowse, Ian Smith.

20 Years (1996)

Heather Christie, Mary Curnow.

15 Years (2001)

Ann Doggett, Ted Maidment, Neil McCracken.

10 Years (2006)

Marion Blythman.

5 Years. (2011)

Bill McGregor, Joy Phillips.

PRESIDENT'S NOTES

The fact that this AGM marks 25 years of continuous, valuable input from the members of the Gold Museum Society—and we have eight members receiving their long service awards for that whole period--strikes me as something that really needs to be celebrated so may I urge you to come to the meeting! It would be very satisfying to have as many of our members attending as possible—there will be a celebratory cake as an added inducement!

*It is particularly sad so few attended the Aug 26th morning tea because Serena's presentation was brilliant and provided wonderful background information about the whole area on which Sovereign Hill stands.

Elaine Maberly

GUIDING NOTES

Why have morning teas and workshops for guides?

Guides don't have many opportunities to meet each other because we often work alone and rarely get the chance to come together. The morning tea is meant to allow guides to get to know the other guides in a pleasant relaxed atmosphere. It is usually followed by a workshop session which is intended to be further guide training and information which will be useful for your tours and for answering questions from our visitors. These sessions should be events which every guide will benefit from and which every guide should try to attend.

*If you are wondering why I have written the above, it is because the last morning tea/workshop, on Friday 26th August, was attended by fewer than half our guides. Plainly something went wrong. Perhaps it was a bad time and day, perhaps a number of you were away on holidays etc. etc. I would appreciate comments from you about why that particular morning tea didn't work, and also what would work best for you. My phone number is 5341 3623.

There will not be any more morning tea/workshops until early next year. By the way, these do not have to be in the morning- we can hold them in the afternoon if we wish to. In fact, afternoons would work better with regard to space at the museum.

Three new guides. I am very pleased that we have three people training to be guides. They are Marion and John McGill and Linda Johannsen. Please make them welcome if they join your tour group. I will soon be scheduling them on the roster where they will be placed with some of our experienced guides.

Helen Muir.

Annual Professor Weston Bate OAM Lecture

"CITY DREAMERS"...

By Emertius Professor Graeme Davison

Professor Graeme Davison will talk about his recent book "City Dreamers" which excavates the cultural history of the Australian city by focusing on 'dreamers', those who battle to make and re-make our cities. It reminds us that for most of us the city is home, and it is there that we find belonging.

Building on a lifetime's work, Graeme Davison views Australian history, from 1788 to the present day, through the eyes of city dreamers - such as Henry Lawson, Charles Bean and Hugh Stretton - and others who have helped make the cities we inhabit. Davison looks at significant individuals or groups that he calls snobs, slummers, pessimists, exodists, suburbans and anti-suburbans - and argues that there's a particular twist to the ways in which Australians think about cities. And the way we live in them.

When: Wednesday 19th October, 2016 at 5.30pm

Where: Victoria Theatre, Sovereign Hill

The function will include special theatrical entertainment, as well as light refreshments.

Dress: Neat casual

RSVP: 17th October - Bookings essential

Janelle Burns Phone: 5337 1111 rsvp@sovereignhill.com.au

Notes from the Curator

House of Lucas

We're preparing for our next big exhibition **House of Lucas** which will showcase our extensive collection from E. Lucas & Co., Ballarat's innovative and stylish fashion house.

The family-owned firm operated from 1888 until 1968, employing hundreds and putting Ballarat on the map as a producer of high quality fashion. **House of Lucas** is a tribute to the people and values that shaped the firm, and a behind the scenes look into its clothing production and the daily lives of employees.

The exhibition will be on display in both the Clark galleries: the small Clark gallery will focus on images of Lucas' early history from its establishment by Eleanor Lucas in 1888 until the opening of the Arch of Victory in 1920. The large gallery will focus on the company's operations between the 1940s and 1960s. Themes explored in this section will be the company's marketing, innovative production techniques and employee's experiences of working for the company, including their active social life and charitable work.

We've been very fortunate to have Amelia Marra come back as an Assistant Curator on the project. Amelia previously did her museum studies internship with us in June.

The exhibition will open in mid-October. Keep your eye on your mailbox for your invitation to the launch!

BALLARAT GOLD MUSEUM SOCIETY

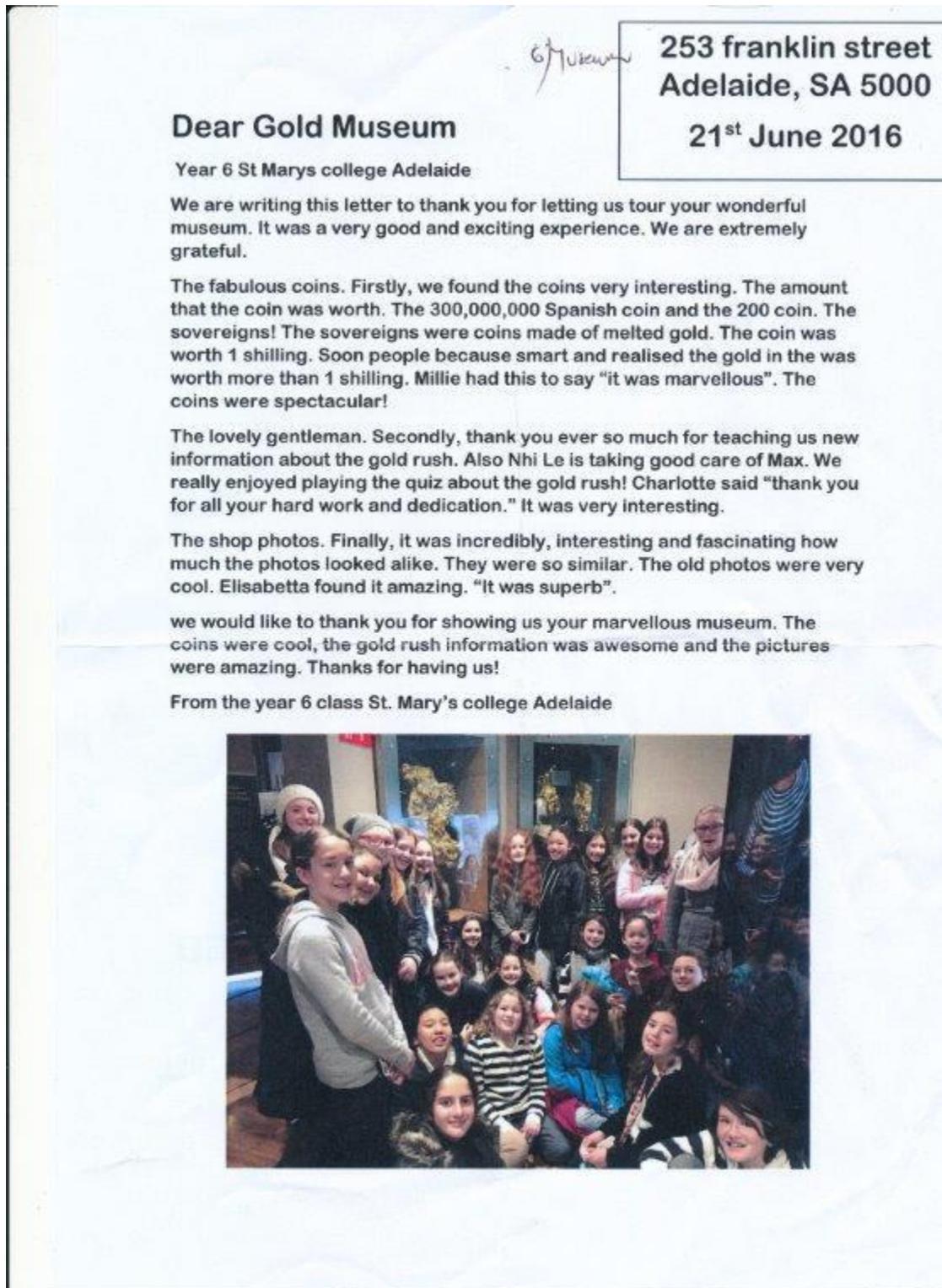
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Michelle Smith, our Senior Curator, is *just* back from her overseas trip and the deadline for Aurum copy this month was just too short notice to be included.



As you can see this was received earlier this year and some of our members have seen it but we felt everyone should know how much our Guide's efforts are appreciated!