

# ANME News



Newsletter of the Australian National Museum of Education

Box 24 Building 5  
University of Canberra ACT 2601

E: [ANME@canberra.edu.au](mailto:ANME@canberra.edu.au)  
W: [www.canberra.edu.au/centres/ANME](http://www.canberra.edu.au/centres/ANME)  
T: (02) 62012473

Editor: Dr Geoffrey Burkhardt

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## Message from ANME's Chair, Professor Barbara Pamphilon



It has been another very productive year for the Australian National Museum of Education, with a range of successful activities, on-going work behind the scenes by our dedicated volunteers and students, and a number of valued visitors. Once again, the highlight of the year was our Annual Lecture, presented by Dr Rosalie Triolo, which in the year of the centenary of World War I most appropriately uncovered the previously under-acknowledged contribution of Victorian teachers to the war effort.

When I think of the ANME, I think of the many webs of connection that the ANME members weave and maintain. Yes, there is the very important physical collection, carefully and lovingly maintained by a band of volunteers but weaving out from this hub are the connections to our members in other states, the many schoolhouse museums who are affiliated and to the other friends of ANME. Locally we have equally important connections through our students and Board members. What a wonderful web. Thanks to each and every person who contributes to our work together. I wish you all the best for the summer season

## ANME Eighth Annual Historical Perspectives on Education Lecture 2014



Guest lecturer Dr Rosalie Triolo with ANME Director Dr Malcolm Beazley AM and Chair of the Board Professor Barbara Pamphilon

The ANME Annual Lecture this year was given by Dr. Rosalie Triolo, History Method Lecturer at Monash University. She is Past President and Life Member of the History Teachers' Association of Victoria and in 2009 Dr. Triolo was awarded a Monash University Mollie Holman Medal for her book titled *Our Schools and the War*". The topic of Dr. Triolo's address to ANME was "Teachers

would make good Soldiers: The Relationship between Victorian Education and Employment Backgrounds and Experiences as Soldiers in the Great War”.

This most informative and scholarly lecture outlined a most useful model for the analysis of teachers from Victoria who enlisted for the service during the Great War. Dr Triolo placed emphasis upon the great contribution to the Australian war effort made by those teachers who enlisted during 1914-1918. Dr. Triolo was welcomed and introduced to the large audience by Prof. Barbara Pamphilon, Chairperson of ANME. Following the Lecture Dr. Triolo was entertained by ANME Friends to dinner at the Old Ginninderra Schoolhouse Restaurant.



*Dr Iain Hay, Dr John McIntyre and Careen Leslie*



*Ngunnawal Centre Director, Craig Dukes with ANME Senior Curator Dr Geoffrey Burkhardt*



*ESTEM Faculty Members, Serena Chung and Gail Stemmet*

Photos courtesy of Michelle McAuley



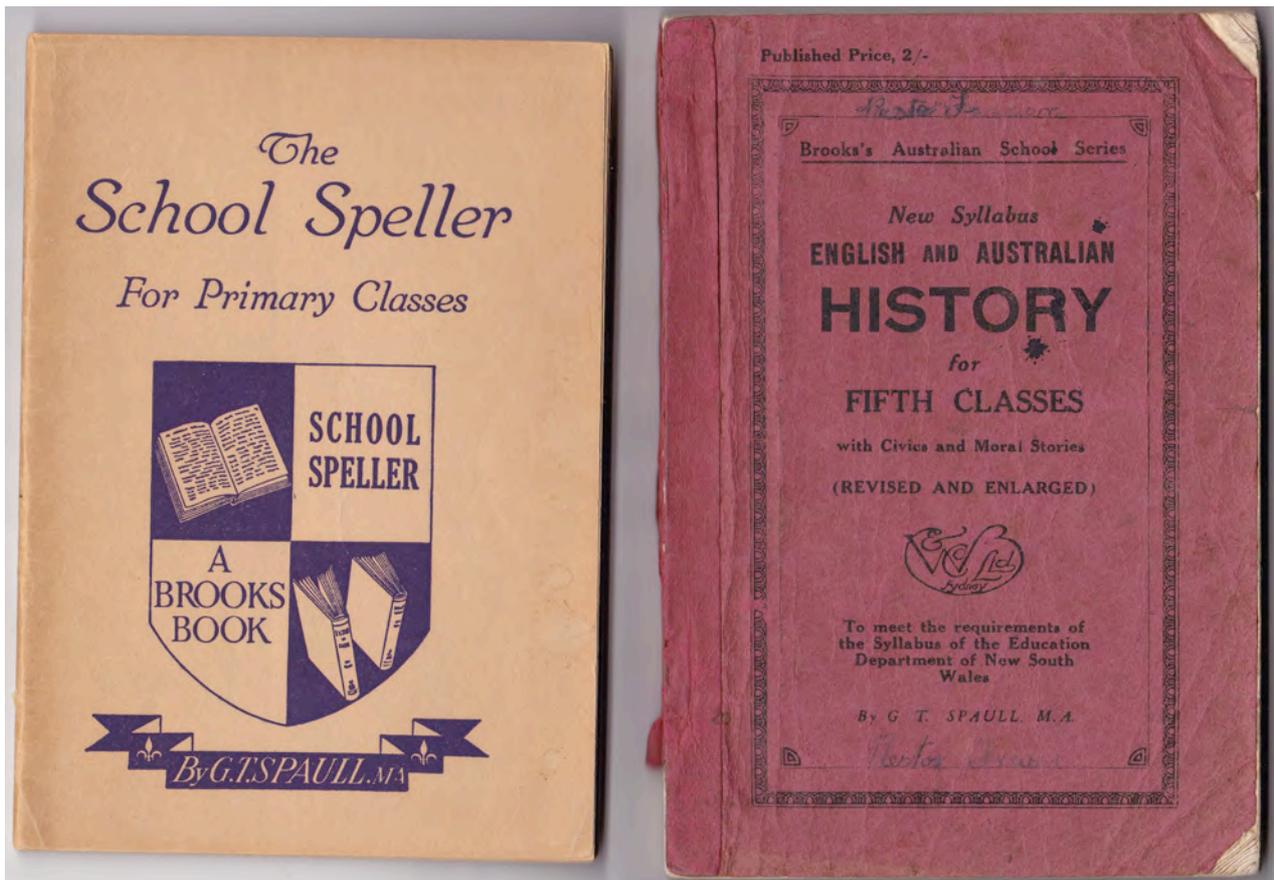
*ANME Student Volunteers James Ley, Sam Cook with Honorary Curator Hakim Rahim*

## **Teachers as Authors of School Text Books: George Thomas Spaul**

George Spaul (1876- 1965), who started his professional teaching career as a pupil teacher in the NSW Department of Public Instruction was one of the most prolific authors of school textbooks during the first half of the twentieth century. He wrote thirty five school textbooks suitable for the syllabus for a number of subjects at the primary school level, including history and geography, English and mathematics. He is best known for his series of graded history and geography textbooks first published in the 1920s for the new NSW primary school syllabus, many of which were revised and reprinted over the decades to accommodate changes in the NSW school curriculum. Some of his better known titles include: *New Syllabus Geography for Fifth Classes* (1929); *New Syllabus History for Fifth Classes with Civics and Moral Stories* (1941); *New Syllabus Australian History* (1937); *New Syllabus English History for Fifth Classes* (1927); *Social Studies for Fourth Grade* (1952); *Senior Geography* (1929); and *The School Speller for Primary Classes* (1945).

Most of George Spaul’s school textbooks were published by William Brooks Co. and they were published in paperback or lightweight card covers making them comparably price competitive. They were well illustrated. George Spaul spent most of his teaching career in Sydney, however his country experience included teaching

at Captains Flat Public School. He graduated from Sydney University with a Master of Arts Degree. For most of his life he was active in the New South Wales Teachers' Federation. His interest in the history of education led him to cooperate with NSW Director of Education S.H. Smith, as a co-author of the scholarly book titled *History of Education in New South Wales 1788-1925*, published in 1925. At that time it was probably the most authoritative and comprehensive history of colonial and early twentieth century schooling in NSW. A more detailed biography of George Spauld may be found in the *Australian Dictionary of Biography*, Volume 12, which is also available now online at, [www.adb.anu.edu.au/](http://www.adb.anu.edu.au/) The ANME holds a number of examples of George Spauld's school textbooks including one of his geography textbooks to be displayed in ANME's forthcoming display, "Geography in Schools".



### ANME Prize for Heritage, Museums and Conservation



It is with great pleasure that the ANME Board announced that Mr. Hakim Rahim is the winner of the inaugural award of the ANME's Prize for Heritage, Museums and Conservation. This Prize is awarded annually to a graduating student of the University of Canberra with an outstanding academic achievement and who has demonstrated a significant contribution or involvement in the work of the ANME. Mr Hakim Rahim has recently graduated with a Bachelor's Degree in Heritage, Museums and Conservation at the

University of Canberra. Over the duration of his program he has demonstrated his expertise in assisting ANME with its activities, including display preparation and ongoing conservation and recording of items and records in the ANME's collection.

### **ANME's Photographic Archive and Digitisation Program**

Board Member and Adjunct Associate Professor at UC, Dr John McIntyre has been making significant progress in the task of digitising the thousand or so photographs in the ANME's collection. This photographic archive of significant Australian school events, school buildings, school museums, and noted distinguished educators is designed to provide an easily accessible research resource for students, education historians and school museum personnel. John is also preparing for our website, a digital record of items from our displays. ANME conveys thanks to Dr McIntyre for undertaking this important task.

### **Visit of University of Canberra's Chancellor to ANME**

On Monday 11<sup>th</sup> November ANME Director, Dr Malcolm Beazley AM, welcomed Dr Tom Calma AO, Chancellor of U.C. to the Australian National Museum of Education. Dr Calma was given a guided tour around the various collections and current displays of ANME. Mr Hakim Rahim, one of ANME's most active volunteers and a recent graduate of U.C's Bachelor of Heritage, Museums and Conservation, also attended the meeting with Dr Calma. Among the numerous topic discussed with the Chancellor was the potential for the development of an "Heritage Precinct" within the University in which selections from each of the heritage collections in the University could be displayed.



*Chancellor, Dr Tom Calma AO with ANME Director Dr Malcolm Beazley AM and ANME Curator Hakim Rahim. Photo courtesy of Chris Davis*



**Wishing you all the  
Compliments of the Season  
and a Prosperous 2015**

