

# ANME *News*

Newsletter of

**ANME** | AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL  
MUSEUM OF EDUCATION

**No. 28**

**Summer 2018**

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## **Message from the ANME Board Chair – Professor Barbara Pamphilon FACE**

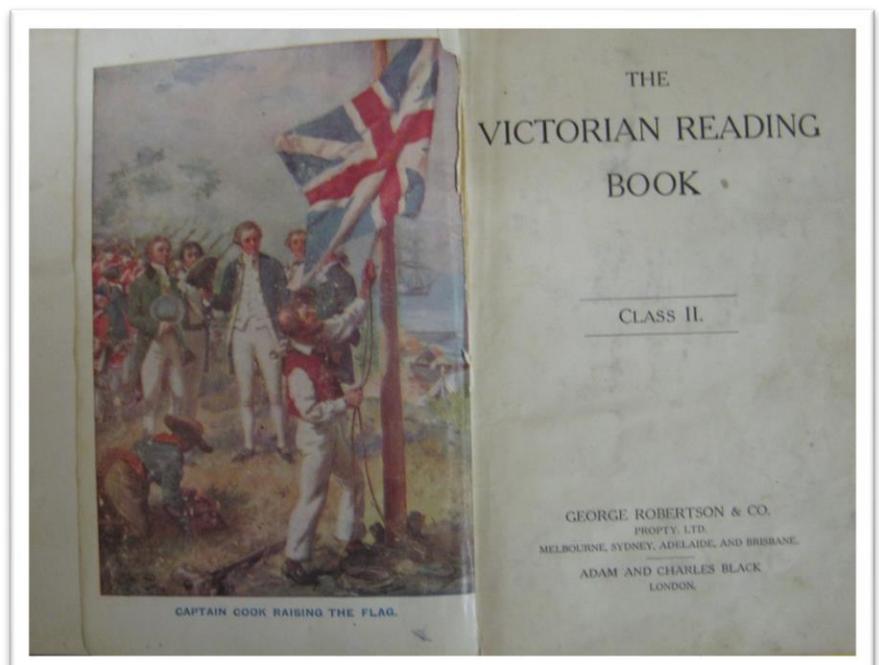


Once again, we have come to the end of a busy and productive year. The ANME collection has been visited by people from all parts of the globe, and it continues to be an important resource for a number, of our students. The University of Canberra has begun an exciting new project where they have appointed a committee to look at the future of the collections held at UC, to have a strategic plan that will enable the use of the range of collections to be maximized. I believe this will be an important opportunity for the ANME.

My thanks to all members of the ANME Board for their contributions this year, and I wish everyone a relaxing and refreshing Summer season.

## **Display of School Readers**

A display of school readers has been set up in the Heritage Gallery of Building No. 5 at the University of Canberra. The display highlights the development of Primary School Readers over the period of the late nineteenth to the late twentieth century. The content of the nineteenth century school readers was characterized by English themed stories with few illustrations. Many of these stories were moralistic and focused on heroes and English national events.



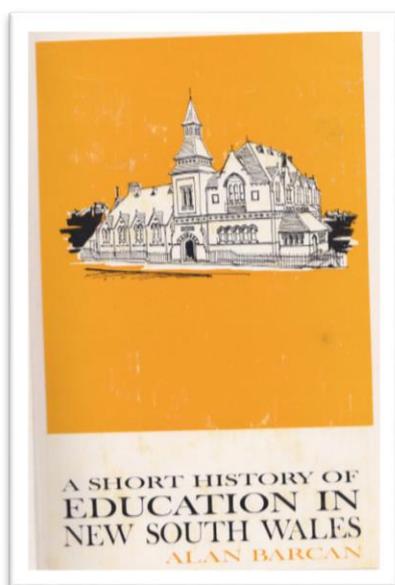
By the beginning of the twentieth century with the advent of Australian school textbook publishers such as William Brooks and Angus & Robertson, Australian content was beginning to be introduced into Australian published school readers. Although still following the phonetic system of reading, Australian School Readers introduced colour illustrations, enlarged formats and they emphasized an Australian social and natural history context to their stories replacing the moralistic tone of the nineteenth century School Readers.



This selection of school readers, dating from the 1840s to the 1970s, includes not only school readers published by Australian state departments of education, but also a number of readers published by well known nineteenth and early twentieth century school textbook publishers such as Collins School Series, William Brooks Australian School Series of School Readers, Angus and Robertson Australian School Readers and Nelson's Royal Readers Series popular in the 1890s.

### Highlights from ANME's History of Education Collection:

**Alan Barcan, *A Short History of Education in New South Wales***



This highly popular reference was first published in 1965 by Martindale Press, Sydney. Although not the first history of education in NSW to be published, this 338 page history was one of the most comprehensive and readable textbooks available to teacher trainee students studying in colleges and universities preparing to become teachers in Australian schools. This was during the decades of the 1960s to 1990s when the subject of the History of Education was taught in all Australian Teachers' Colleges until their demise in the 1970s, and Faculties of Education in Australian Universities. The book went through numerous reprints and editions culminating in a revised enlarged edition written in 1988 titled *Two Centuries of Education in New South Wales*, published by University of NSW Press.

Dr. Alan Barcan was one of the most experienced and well-known History of

Education specialists. He was Lecturer in History at Newcastle Teachers' College when the book was first published, later becoming Associate Professor of Education at the University of Newcastle. A copy of the book is on display in the ANME Repository.

### **Focus on Conservation Work**



The last few months have seen great progress in ANME's efforts to conserve and preserve some of its most valuable and vulnerable items. We have been most fortunate to have student volunteers from the Faculty of Education and the Heritage and Museum course involved in a number of these conservation activities. A special "Thank You" goes to two student volunteers in particular for their time and involvement with ANME's conservation program. Maren Innes (pictured left) has done a wonderfully professional job in the making of Conservation Phase Boxes for such fragile and precious items as the Mowbray House School Alphabetical Registers of Students, 1906-1940s, and also the 1834 school textbook from the Parramatta Orphan School (1819-1860s). Natalie Patterson has assisted with the conservation and

filing of ANME's collection of school students' exercise books, a collection numbering over 200 exercise books, spanning the period from the 1870s through to the 1970s.

The ANME has also purchased a quantity of large (50x30cms) Mylar sleeves and flat file boxes for the archival flat file storage of our growing collection of school and educational posters and wall display kindergarten picture studies. Included amongst the posters is a 1940s school health chart and a selection of Education Week posters from the 1950s and 1960s.

### **Postgraduate Student Research**

The ANME has been pleased to welcome PhD student Emily Gallagher, from the ANU, who has been visiting our repositories searching for information and examples relating to children's educational games, of which the ANME has examples from the early twentieth century.

### **Visit by Brazilian Academic**

During the week beginning, 12 November the ANME was visited by Mrs Vanessa Marinho from the Brazilian Ministry of Education. Mrs Marinho is a specialist in educational projects and is also interested in the history of schooling. During her time at the ANME, she was able to meet with UC's International Relations Officer, Mr

Frank Guo and ANME's Partnerships' Manager, Dr Bernard Brown. She was also fortunate to attend an event by UC's National Centre for Australian Children's Literature and meet its Director, Emeritus Professor Belle Alderman AM and its retiring Chair of the Board, The Hon. John Faulks.



*Frank Guo, Vanessa Marinho and Dr Bernard Brown*

### **Pioneer Colonial Teacher: Matthew Hughes**

**Matthew Hughes** arrived in the colony as a convict aboard the convict transport *Britannia* in 1796. He was born in Ireland in c.1770. He was appointed as the first teacher at Kissing Point 1799-1810, from there he went to Windsor then to Richmond during the period 1813 until 1833 when he retired. Hughes had been a corporal in the militia in Ireland, where he was involved in a fight with civilians, convicted and transported in 1796. He was convicted in County Down with a Life sentence. He received a Conditional Pardon in 1802 and an Absolute Pardon in January 1818. In 1808 he married Mary Small (born 1791 Sydney daughter of John Small and Mary Parker, both First Fleet convicts) at Parramatta. Prior to 1810 when Hughes and his wife were on the Government Stores, parents paid four pence per week for each child. A slab hut served as a school. In 1810 Hughes was appointed to Governor Macquarie's new Charity School at Windsor where he taught until 1813 when he was transferred to Richmond school. At Windsor he was paid 60 Pounds per annum. He was given a Land Grant of 65 acres. Hughes died in 1845 and is buried in St. Peter's Richmond churchyard. He continued to teach at Richmond until 1839. During his time in the colony he was regarded by all as an excellent citizen, but a strict teacher. He was a staunch Methodist and was, in his later years, a member of the Committee of the Emancipated Colonists.



*Season's Greetings and  
Best Wishes for 2019*

