

Dear members and friends

OPEN DAY POSTPONED

We regret the previously announced open day scheduled for Sunday 29 May has to be postponed due to unforeseen circumstances.

We will advise the new date as soon as possible – our apologies for any inconvenience.

MEMBERSHIP REMINDER

Members from 2009-10 who have not renewed for 2010-11 will have received an email or hard copy reminder recently (ALGA's financial year runs 1 October to 30 September). Payments can be made by cheque, money order or bank transfer (\$20 for full membership, \$5 student or pensioner concession). ALGA's bank account is CBA, BSB 063 002, Account 1006 1383. If paying online, please indicate your surname in the narrative and send an email to algarchives@hotmail.com to confirm details.

If people want to join ALGA (or re-join in the case of lapsed members from 2009 or earlier), you can do this from our website - <http://home.vicnet.net.au/~alga/docs/membershipform.pdf>

If you're in doubt at all about the currency of your membership, please contact membership secretary Graham Carbery on algararchives@hotmail.com.

DEDUCTIBLE DONATIONS - A SEASONAL REMINDER!

All donations of \$2 or more to ALGA's gift account are tax deductible. Donations can be made by cheque, money order or bank transfer (same account details as above). Once-off or recurring donations to ALGA by credit card are also possible through the GiveNow website -

<http://www.givenow.com.au/algarchives/>

Donations to ALGA are the lifeblood of much of ALGA's work, enabling, among other things, the refurbishment and fitout of ALGA's space at the Victorian AIDS Council (over \$50,000 in the past two years). *Secret Histories of Queer Melbourne* would never have been published without the generosity of individual donors, as well as City of Melbourne support. Major expenditures awaiting funding include a replacement photocopier and computer system, both now over six years old, and a commercially hosted website to enable more ambitious online presentations.

We thank the many donors who have already contributed this year, and remind those who make specific purpose donations for periodicals binding that replica certificates of acknowledgement will be sent to donors around August-September.

SHELVING WORK PHASE 3

The third and final phase of the plan to create extra shelving capacity in ALGA's space at the Victorian AIDS Council is due to occur in early June. This involves wall shelving in the basement (next to the compactus) plus two stacked plan cabinets for additional poster storage.

In the second half of 2011 a priority is the rehousing of ALGA's 3000+ book collection, currently in a member's house. These are expected to take up about a quarter of the compactus capacity.

MULTICULTURAL SURVEY

ALGA member Joe Rocca invites participants in an online survey he is conducting to obtain a snapshot of multicultural GLBTIQ lives. The survey doesn't require names or personally identifying details – just brief responses to some trigger questions (allow about 5 minutes) – go to <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/XYHBZYZ>. **Responses are due by Sunday 29 May.** The results will form part of an anthology being produced by [Banquet Press](#) in conjunction with Australian GLBTIQ Multicultural Council ([AGMC](#)) for Midsumma 2012. If you have any questions please contact Joe on 0403 765 048.

COLLECTION WORK ACHIEVEMENT

Thanks to volunteers Anton and Harsh for completing a major project recently – the relocation, rehousing and auditing of ALGA's international periodicals. Previously spread across multiple locations, the non-Australian periodicals are now housed in alpha order by title in the basement compactus, in acid free boxes, with their contents verified. The project involved intensive work over three months and is greatly appreciated.

ALGA'S FACEBOOK PAGE

Yes, we do have one - even if the technology resisters among us aren't on it! For those interested, go to <http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=35361025625&v=wall> And thanks to Mark for setting this up and maintaining.

BEQUEST INFO

ALGA's website contains basic information for people contemplating making a bequest to ALGA - <http://home.vicnet.net.au/~alga/docs/bequests.pdf> This information is intended to be at a summary level only, and ALGA is happy to discuss potential bequests in person on a confidential basis should this be useful.

SECRET HISTORIES - A LIBRARY CHALLENGE

As of today, ALGA's newly published *Secret Histories of Queer Melbourne* is in the catalogue of only one Australian library. Others are in the pipeline (judging from some recent orders) - but you might want to consider recommending the book to your local or workplace library. Purchase details and table of contents are on the merchandise page of ALGA's website <http://home.vicnet.net.au/~alga/merchandise.htm> TAFE and university libraries might also be interested to purchase *Out here : Gay and Lesbian Perspectives VI* - details also on the merchandise page.

THE PRINCE – RECOLLECTIONS

A biography published last year by Ross Honeywill of Australian playwright Jim McNeil (1935-1982) includes McNeill's precocious childhood observations of life in St Kilda in the last days of World War 2 – among them the Prince of Wales Hotel catering for a [male] homosexual clientele and homo-sex opportunities at the segregated St Kilda sea baths for American gay soldiers "on the hunt". An edited extract from Honeywill's *Wasted* (Viking) appeared in the [Sunday Age 29 August 2010](#) ("Portrait of the artist as a young larrikin"). Thanks to Kevin for drawing this to our attention.

For a nice appreciation of the Prince's architectural and social history, including its significant role in Melbourne's gay past and present, see chapter 16 of the online version of ALGA member's Richard Peterson's [A place of sensuous resort: buildings of St Kilda and their people](#), published by the St Kilda Historical Society (2005).

"WOMEN BEHAVING BADLY"

See <http://www.theage.com.au/entertainment/movies/women-behaving-badly-20110430-1e1p7.html> for an interesting recent article by Gabriella Coslovich's in *The Age* (Life & Style 30/4/11, pp.1, 12-14). The article reviews a new book (*Notorious Australian Women* by Kay Saunders, Harper Collins), a currently screening film (*Magnificent Obsessions*, ACMI 19-31 May) and an exhibition (*Femme Fatale*, National Wool Museum, Geelong) - and makes interesting connections between the three. Some famous names from Australian lesbian history are there (Marion "Bill" Edwards, Eugenia Falleni).

Best wishes

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