Menzies’ book club

Using a relational database to reconstruct the social networks of Robert Gordon Menzies

Dr Caitlin Stone and Dr Jim Berryman
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>20 December 1894</td>
<td>Born in Jeparit, Victoria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1901–1918</td>
<td>Educated at Jeparit State School; Grenville College (Ballarat); Wesley College (Melbourne) and the University of Melbourne</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1918</td>
<td>Admitted to the Victorian Bar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1928</td>
<td>Entered state parliament</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1934</td>
<td>Entered federal parliament</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1939–1941</td>
<td>Prime Minister</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1944–1945</td>
<td>Established the Liberal Party of Australia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1949–1966</td>
<td>Prime Minister</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1967–1972</td>
<td>Chancellor, University of Melbourne</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 May 1978</td>
<td>Died in Melbourne</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
• Around 3800 volumes
• Books, periodicals, photograph albums, maps, flyers and notebooks
• Dates of publication: 1786–1978
• Dates of acquisition: 1904–1977
Growth of the library 1904–1978

No. books acquired

Year

Clubs and other organisations

- Athenaeum Club
- Australian Club
- Carlton Football Club
- Commonwealth Club
- Freemasons
- Hastings Winkle Club
- Liberal Party of Australia
- Lord’s Taverners
- Melbourne Cricket Club
- The Other Club
- Pratt’s (London)
- Reform Club
- Savage Club (London)
- Savage Club (Melbourne)
- United Australia Party
- West Brighton Club
• Around 400 ‘significant’ people so far
• Main occupations:
  - Academics
  - Artists
  - Diplomats
  - Historians
  - Journalists
  - Lawyers (including barristers and judges)
  - Politicians (Australian and international)
  - Writers
Bob,

An "inside" story, offered to the only one in Australian politics who might understand the term in its fullest meaning.

With warm regard

Paul.

Christmass, 1969.
• A.P. Herbert 16 books
• Alfred Stirling 14 books
• Julius Stone 9 books
• ‘A.S.B’ 7 books
• Winston Churchill 6 books
• Maie Casey 6 books
• Dean Acheson 5 books
• Lionel Lindsay 4 books
For

My good friend,

Bob Menzies

with every good wish

Arthur Calwell

November 5, 1972.
Prime Ministers R.G. Menzies and Winston Churchill at Downing Street, London (1941)
National Library of Australia
nla.pic-vn4506895

To
R. G. Menzies
my comrades in anxious days
from
Winston Churchill

September 15 41
For Mr. Robert G. Menzies with deep appreciation
Kenneth Slessor
Oct. 1957
To a Great Australian
with warmest wishes

Mary Durack,

10 Orange Street, London, WC2

Perth 1959
Maie Casey (c. 1941)
National Library of Australia
nla.pic-vn4320764
To the Prime Minister

with admiration

Robert Menzies

with the engraver's affection

Kuchwonga

Feb 18, 1940

Harold Cazneaux, The etcher [Lionel Lindsay] (1925)
National Library of Australia
nla.pic-an2383932-1
Bob, with the affection
of his devoted
Lionello

Wahwonga August 1959
To R.G.M.

In gratitude

A.S.B.

30-12-57

‘A.S.B.’

Inscription in Robert Speaigght, The Life of Hilaire Belloc (1957)
In memory of when it was a memorable evening…

April 1941.

‘The Commandant’
Inscription in T.S. Eliot, East Coker (1940)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AUTHOR</th>
<th>TITLE</th>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>P. or A.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BLAINEY, Geoffrey</td>
<td>A CENTENARY HISTORY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE</td>
<td>1957</td>
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<td>BLAKE, L.</td>
<td>SHAW NEILSON IN THE WIMMERA</td>
<td>1915</td>
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<td>BOURKE, J.</td>
<td>OFF THE BLUE BUSH</td>
<td>1956</td>
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<td>BOYCE, Richard Fyfe</td>
<td>THE DIPLOMAT'S WIFE</td>
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<td>BOYD, Martin</td>
<td>DAY OF MY DELIGHT: AN ANGLO-AUSTRALIAN MEMOIR</td>
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<td>THE LIVING COMMONWEALTH</td>
<td>1961</td>
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<td>BRASCHE, R.</td>
<td>SIR JOHN MONASH</td>
<td>1960</td>
<td>A</td>
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<td>BRIGGS, Ellis</td>
<td>FAREWELL TO FOGGY BOTTOM; THE RECOLLECTIONS OF A CAREER DIPLOMAT</td>
<td>1964</td>
<td>P.</td>
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<td>BRITAIN, Sir Harry</td>
<td>PILGRIM PARTNERS: FORTY YEARS OF BRITISH-AMERICAN FELLOWSHIP</td>
<td>1942</td>
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<td>17b</td>
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<td>BROOKES, Habel</td>
<td>CROWDED GALLERIES</td>
<td>1967</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>14c</td>
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<td>RIDERS OF TIME</td>
<td>1956</td>
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<td>BRUSST, Marie</td>
<td>THE CRAIGS OF COLLINS STREET</td>
<td>1971</td>
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<td>BURNS, James McGregor</td>
<td>JOHN KENNEDY A POLITICAL PROFILE</td>
<td>1960</td>
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<td>BURTON, John W.</td>
<td>PEACE THEORY: PRECONDITIONS OF DISARMAMENT</td>
<td>1962</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>16b</td>
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<td>CAMPBELL, W.J.</td>
<td>CROWING UP IN KARELIEK: A STUDY OF CHILD GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT IN AN AUSTRALIAN RURAL COMMUNITY</td>
<td>1962</td>
<td>P.</td>
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<td>CASEY, Naie</td>
<td>AN AUSTRALIAN STORY, 1837-1907</td>
<td>1962</td>
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<td>TIDES AND EDDIES</td>
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<td>CASEY, Richard Baron</td>
<td>AUSTRALIAN FATHER AND SON PERSONAL EXPERIENCE, 1939-1946</td>
<td>1966</td>
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<td>CASEY, Richard Gardiner</td>
<td>DOUBLE OR QUIT: SOME VIEWS ON AUSTRALIAN DEVELOPMENT AND RELATIONS FRIENDS AND NEIGHBOURS: AUSTRALIA AND THE WORLD (2 copies - 1 copy presented)</td>
<td>1949</td>
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<td>1954</td>
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<td>CHILDERS, J.S.</td>
<td>WAR EAGLES: THE STORY OF THE EAGLE SQUADRON.</td>
<td>1943</td>
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This is an account by Sir Daryl Lindsay, artist, connoisseur and Director of the National Gallery of Victoria, of the bequest of Alfred Felton.

There have been many histories of great galleries, but few if any have dealt so frankly with the policy of both Trustees and Directors, at least from the inside. A combination of circumstances has favoured the author in his task. He was a friend of those who knew Felton personally and has been given access to unpublished private records as well as official ones. As a young artist in England he knew many of the first advisers and notable art experts and gallery directors who acted as consultants. His years of study in European collections and knowledge of the art market led to his becoming a kind of ' unofficial' adviser before he was appointed director. After his appointment he went on a special mission to the U.K. and the U.S.A. to discuss buying policy with other Directors, and to draw up a statement for the future guidance of Trustees, here published in full with the comments he received.

The result is more than a fascinating chapter in the history of art in Australia. It provides a unique text for informed debate on Art Galleries, their buying policy and function, and as such is of wider than Australian interest, for some of the same problems continue to crop up in older and more experienced institutions.
The Robert Menzies Collection: A Living Library
http://www.menziescollection.esrc.unimelb.edu.au

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