

The Muriel Matters Society Epistle

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Hello to All Members and Friends!

The Quasiquicentennial Commemorations in South Australia are drawing to close – although as the Bill was not enacted until March 1895, there is a little bit of leeway! I hope you have had the chance to attend an event somewhere in the city or one of the state-wide events, held with support from funding from The Office of Women.

The Society's next event will be:

The Muriel Matters Society Inc

invites you to attend a

Quasiquicentenary Afternoon Tea and Ephemera Viewing for the 125th Anniversary of Women's Dual Suffrage in SA

Sunday, 10 November from 1.00pm - 3.00pm

**Venue: Woman's Christian Temperance Union Rooms
(255 Sir Donald Bradman Drive, Cowandilla)**

A presentation on WCTU will be followed by refreshments.

Gold Coin donation please.

Bookings Essential: Email murielmatterssociety@gmail.com or
Phone 0437 656 700 for further details.

Recent News

- Iconic is a good word to use when describing the WCTU Rooms. Many of us pass by their SA headquarters on our way to the airport, without noticing this very important part of state history. After moving from their Hutt Street premises, the new venue houses perhaps the finest collection of state suffrage ephemera and primary objects. **This function will also double as our 10th Birthday event**, so as well as joining the festivities for both occasions, make sure you take this opportunity to hear some of the WCTU story and see some of the wonderful objects of which they are custodians.
- A 'Suffrage Soapbox' cameo by Tamara (Mary Lee) was presented to the attendees at The Premier's State Dinner in the Town Hall on Tuesday 6 August. The Dinner also had musical and dancing performances. Large portraits of many of our state suffrage heroines (including Muriel!) were projected around the auditorium during the night. Speakers included Minister Michelle Lensink, former Senator Natasha Stott-Despoja and former Prime Minister Julia Gillard.
- Not long after that event, Joanne (in Tamara's absence) presented a shortened version to the Public Service Assn conference. Every time the pieces are performed, the word spreads and a new group of people hear more about MMS and the state's inspiring suffrage story.

Recent News (continued)

- The full list of the 125th Community Celebration Activities is now available on the Office of Women website: <https://www.officeforwomen.sa.gov.au/womens-policy/125th-anniversary-of-suffrage/community-grants>. Check them out - many events have been very imaginative. The slogan 'Their Triumph, Our Motivation' has been featured on all publicity. The colouring competition winners will soon be announced.
- The Monograph is about to go to the printer!! Mark has performed his amazing magic (with a little help from his friends!) and we are all very excited Quentin Bryce has supplied the Foreword. We will confirm launch details as soon as possible, hopefully for some time in November but if not, very soon after – perhaps our Xmas event.
- Hardback copies of 'Miss Muriel Matters' and 'You Daughters of Freedom' have been presented to the library of The University of Adelaide and we look forward to future collaborations with Muriel's Alma Mater.
- The final 4 cards in the new 12 card series of free Quasquicentenary info cards have been printed and have proven to be very popular. They have been distributed overseas during the recent visit and to delegates at both the National History Teachers Assn and the Commonwealth Women Parliamentarians conferences – no one had seen anything like them and we may need to provide via the merchandise collection. The cards will continue to be available for members at events and via mailouts, while stocks last.
- The MMS 125th Anniversary commemoration badges are again in stock. Slightly bigger than normal, they are priced at \$10.00. A marvellous keepsake for your collection, only available in limited numbers, so be quick and don't miss out!
- Enquiries continue to come in from all around the world. Steven, Wendy and Frances respond as quickly as possible and MMS is being quoted and published regularly. Most recently, we supplied information and images to Alison Bailey at Amersham Museum for her project 'Women at War'.

Memberships & Merchandise

New members continue to join, as a result of the increased public presentations this year – thank you to everyone! Our amazing volunteer membership officer, Sonya, has been very successful in bringing former members back into The Society – again thank you to all! Merchandise, especially the soaps and 125th badges, selling well. A new tea towel is in final design stages. And, the Q Card series is very popular with old and young. The cards are provided free of charge after talks – a very good reason to come and join us! They are the ephemera of the future – so add to or start your shoe box today!!

Diary Dates

Further calendar of dates for 2019 will be advised ASAP and include:

Sunday 10 November – Quasquicentenary/10th Birthday Afternoon Tea at WCTU Rooms, details on front of newsletter

Tuesday 19 November – Observance of 50 Years since the death of Muriel: flowers to be laid as part of Commemoration at the Muriel Matters Mural, Dawkins Place, Adelaide (off Frome Street) Light Refreshments (Nibbles & Drinks) supplied, details in flyer attached.

Monograph Launch – details to be confirmed

Xmas Function – details to be confirmed

The Muriel Matters Society Inc.

PO Box 87, Modbury North SA 5092

M) 0437 656 700 (business hours and after hours messages)

E) murielmatterssociety@gmail.com

W) www.murielmatterssociety.com.au