



BOAB BULLETIN

No. 86

June 2008.

NOTICE OF GENERAL MEETINGS

7.15 for 7.30 p.m. at

Shenton Park Community Centre, corner Onslow and Herbert Roads

Wednesday, 4 June 2008

Sandy Boulter (Kimberly Toad Busters)

“Cane Toads”

Wednesday, 2 July 2008

Ross Kelly (Chairman, Clontarf Foundation)

“The Clontarf Foundation”

Wednesday, 6 August 2008

Clay Bryce (Aquatic Zoology, WA Museum)

“Of Oceans, Atolls and Lagoons: a marine census”

Members and visitors are invited to stay for supper after the meeting.
The Society asks a \$2.00 hospitality fee from non-members.

Wednesday 23 July 2008 at 7.30 pm

Nineteenth Serventy Memorial Lecture

Martin Copley (founder and chairman of Australian Wildlife Conservancy)

“Private Sector Conservation in Australia, its Role and Contribution”

Alexander Library Lecture Theatre, Francis Street, Perth

Cost \$10.00 (includes supper)

FROM THE PRESIDENT

My first visit to the Kimberley was to the Walcott Inlet in 1983. After a late evening flight from Perth to Derby, we spent a sleepless night on the ground at Derby airport before catching a dawn charter flight to Koolan Island. Thence by boat to the uppermost reaches of the tidal inlet, having awaited a suitable time to pass through the treacherous Yule entrance. We arrived in the tropical heat of the day, having had no food or sleep since leaving Perth the previous afternoon. We carried our packs several kilometres to a camp site by the Calder River but our relief on arrival was shattered by being ordered back to the landing site to cart another heavy load of provisions. Eventually we were able to lie down exhausted, scarcely noticing the myriads of flies and mosquitoes or even the close proximity of large crocodiles. With all this back packing my back packed up and I could hardly move for two days. Thus started my love affair with the Kimberley.

These discomforts were mild compared to those suffered by previous expeditions. The rough terrain in the area defeated and all but killed Alexander Forrest. Hann and Brockman struggled and all remarked on the rough country. Fred Easton, the first pastoralist in the area at what was known as Avon Valley station (later the Aboriginal feeding station Munja), was killed by a crocodile while trying to reach J C De Lancourt whose descriptions of the area features in *On Australia's Rim* (edited by W J de Burgh). I reviewed this book in the *Boab Bulletin* last year.

These thoughts have been prompted by reading *Last Horse Standing* written by Mike Keenan, and published in paperback by Bantam books. I had not heard of this author before, nor, despite living in Derby for five years, of the remarkable story of Jack Camp and his young companions who were marooned at the Walcott Inlet following a cyclone in 1971. Knowing the area and several of the people mentioned does of course add extra excitement but by any standards it is a rattling good yarn and thoroughly recommended reading on your next holiday.

All this forms an apology for my non attendance at the August meeting. I shall be at...yes...the Walcott Inlet. This time we shall fly in by plane and hopefully have a more comfortable experience than that of our first trip and our pioneering predecessors.

Hamish McGlashan

THE SOCIETY'S FIRST CENTENARIAN

In May, Frank Colquhoun AM celebrated his 100th birthday. Born in England, but educated at North Perth State School and Perth Technical College, Frank became an apprentice with Western Australian Airways Ltd in 1923 at the age of 14. He gained his aviation engineering qualifications with that company, and he joined MacRobertson Miller Aviation Company in 1934, working as Chief Mechanic and then as Chief Engineer. He was still there when MMA became part of Ansett Airlines in the 1960s, and in 1978 he retired with 55 years' aviation engineering experience.

Frank was a founding member of the Kimberley Society and he attended the launch on 1 December 1993. He seldom missed a meeting in the years that followed, driving down from his hills home with Lloyd Butcher, Athol Farrant, and Eddie & Joy Dell. Never one to be idle, Frank could still be seen putting away the chairs after meetings in 2006, at the age of 98. He finally eased up, however, and, with a move into aged care, the Society's monthly meetings were one of the things he had to give up. Hearty congratulations Frank on reaching such an amazing milestone!

ABORIGINAL ART AND CULTURE IN THE KIMBERLEY AND ADJOINING AREAS: A HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE

On 2 April 2008, Dr Phillip E Playford, a geologist and rock art enthusiast, shared some of his recent and not so recent observations with his fellow members of the Kimberley Society. His illustrated talk was broadly divided into four parts, dealing with (1) the first arrival of Aboriginal people in the Kimberley, (2) evidence of early Aboriginal culture as depicted in their rock art, (3) the traditional nomadic culture and lifestyles of Aborigines in desert country adjoining the Kimberley, and (4) changes that have occurred since the people lost their nomadic lifestyles.

It is generally accepted that people of the species *Homo sapiens* first arrived in Australia about 50,000 years ago, during the middle of the last ice age, when part of the present continental shelf was dry land. Over thousands of years before then, stone-age humans had migrated from island to island along the Indonesian archipelago, eventually reaching as far east as Timor and Roti. Boats or rafts would have been used to cross the short gaps between islands in the archipelago, but because those gaps were narrow and the adjoining land was high, people on the watercrafts were always able to keep in sight of land.

However, that would not have been so when they eventually crossed the wide expanse of ocean separating Timor from the Kimberley. That gap is nearly 500 km wide today, while the distance to the horizon at sea level is less than 5 km. When the first people reached Australia, sea level was 50 m lower than it is today, and there was still a gap of more than 400 km between Timor and the Australian mainland. Yet, because of the lower sea level, many present-day reefs southeast of Timor were exposed as small islands, the closest being along Hibernia Reef, about 120 km southeast of Timor. People from Timor may have first crossed the gap to those islands by chance, being swept there in a boat during a storm. They can be expected to have found rich animal life (fish, shellfish, birds, and turtles) on and around those islands, and would have taken that information back to Timor, prompting others to make the crossing. Some people would eventually have extended their hunting and gathering activities to a group of larger islands to the southwest (Ashmore and Cartier Islands). From there they could follow a line of smaller islands extending south towards Australia. A gap of about 130 km separated the closest of those islands from the Australian coast. Some intrepid people on that island may have resolved to seek new land to the south, thereby coming upon the mainland coast of Australia. Alternatively their boat may have been blown across the gap during a storm. In either case those stone-age people were the first humans to set foot on the Australian continent, some 50,000 years ago, having completed what was probably the longest ocean crossing by anyone in the world up to that time. Perhaps their stories of this wondrous new land were passed back to Timor, resulting in a stream of migrants to the Kimberley during following years.

During the peak of the ice age, about 18,000 years ago, when sea level was some 130 m lower than it is now, the gap separating Timor from the Kimberley was reduced to about 120 km, and the distance from Timor to Hibernia Reef fell to about 80 km. That may have been the period when the maximum migration of pre-historic people took place to Australia, more than 30 millennia after the first humans had entered the continent. At that time rock painting flourished in the mountainous rocky area of the Kimberley, behind a very wide coastal plain.

An indication of the types of boats that were used by Aboriginal people during the peak of the ice age can be gained from the ancient Kimberley rock paintings known as Bradshaw or *Gwion Gwion* art. Associated with that art, and apparently of about

the same age, are paintings of boats having high prows and sterns, and with people paddling them. Some boats are painted with longitudinal and vertical stripes along their sides, interpreted by some authorities as representing reed construction. That interpretation may be correct, but another alternative is that they were woven-bamboo boats, of a type that is still in use in Vietnam. Those sturdy boats have high prows and sterns, and are coated on the inside with plant resin or bitumen to make them waterproof. Bamboo is abundant in Timor, and it may well have been used for boat building by its early inhabitants. Thus it seems quite possible that the first vessel to reach the shores of Australia was a bamboo boat.

The Bradshaw paintings include graceful images of people, often with bent knees, long head-dresses, and decorative adornments, and commonly holding boomerangs or other objects. Minimal dating has been carried out on these paintings, but existing measurements suggest that some were painted about 17,000 to 20,000 years ago, i.e. near the peak of the last ice age, when the ocean gap from Timor to the Australian continent was at its narrowest. Some authorities have speculated that those artists are unrelated to modern Aborigines, and that their lineage disappeared thousands of years ago. It has also been pointed out that the persons depicted in the paintings seem to be participating in corroborees that have similar characteristics to such ceremonies held in historic times. The dancers in a corroboree photographed at Pago (in the north Kimberley, near Kalumburu) during the 1930s are strikingly similar to those shown in Bradshaw paintings, with bent knees, long head-dresses, and decorative adornments. It therefore seems reasonable to conclude that the Bradshaw people were among the ancestors of modern Aborigines, and that some aspects of their culture (including features of corroborees as shown in Bradshaw paintings) were maintained for many thousands of years. When the first people came to Australia, some 50,000 years ago, all people on earth were living in the stone age, yet Aboriginal society remained in that age until it was displaced by the arrival of Europeans.

Perhaps the most important rock-art discovery made in Australia in recent years is that of a panel of about 25 deer paintings in the Mitchell River area of the Kimberley. The deer are shown standing in line along the wall of a quartzite rock shelter. Because of their age many are faded and otherwise degraded, or are partly covered with precipitates from water seepages, but some remain well preserved. This discovery was greeted with disbelief among some students of rock art, and one article absurdly described the figures as 'a set of genuflecting men painted on the rock face'. But there can be little doubt that the paintings do represent deer. They show four-legged animals with prominent antlers, and presumably represent the Timor Deer, *Cervus timorensis*, that was once very abundant as big herds on Timor. Those deer have now disappeared from that island, but the species has survived on reserves elsewhere in Indonesia and in several other countries, including eastern Australia, where they were introduced long ago. Some that occur on isolated islands are thought to have been introduced there by Indonesian fishermen.

Associated with the deer paintings are some of the representations of watercraft. There can be little doubt that all of these paintings belong to the Bradshaw era, and that they were probably painted some time around the peak of the last ice age, when voyages from Timor may have been most common. The deer could have been painted by someone who had come recently from Timor, bringing with him memories of those animals, or alternatively they might have been introduced into the Kimberley, but have since died out. If that is so, it seems surprising that no other deer paintings have yet been found in the area. Nevertheless, it seems clear that the Pleistocene coastal plain adjoining the mountainous country of the Kimberley would

have been well suited to Timor Deer, as they are known to flourish in low-lying marsh country. If they were introduced to that coastal plain they probably died out as sea level rose and the plain disappeared at the close of the Pleistocene. The Thylacine or Tasmanian tiger is another mammal that features in Kimberley rock art but had disappeared from the area prior to the arrival of Europeans.

A more recent art form in the Kimberley is known as *Wandjina* art. This features large male figures, almost always shown without mouths. The earliest accounts suggested that these figures were clothed, but that view has not been accepted by most modern authorities. Nevertheless, it seems possible that the oldest *Wandjina* paintings, thought to date back only a few hundred years, were painted with clothes, and that they represented the earliest Europeans who arrived on the Kimberley coast, beginning with Abel Tasman in 1644. That view is supported by evidence from *Wandjina* art at Bigge Island in the North Kimberley, where *Wandjina* figures appear to be smoking pipes. Moreover, some are shown aboard boats. Unfortunately, Tasman's log of that voyage has been lost, but it seems quite possible that he landed at Bigge Island, and encountered Aborigines there. Aborigines have claimed in recent times that the 'pipes' shown in the paintings are actually lily roots. However, it seems far more likely that the figures represent European seamen, clothed and smoking pipes. Those seamen would have seemed to the Aborigines to be supernatural beings, and may consequently have been incorporated into Aboriginal legends and rock art.

In 1964 the speaker was privileged to witness Aborigines who had never previously encountered whites, living in the Canning Stock Route area of the Great Sandy and Gibson Deserts, south of the Kimberley. He was a member of an expedition sent into the area to contact the few Aborigines still believed to be living there. The expedition was mounted because the area was supposed to be subjected to impacts by debris from British Blue Streak rockets, fired from Woomera in South Australia. The people in the area (belonging to the *Ngadadjarra* and *Pintubi* language groups) were leading traditional Aboriginal lifestyles, untouched by modern civilization. Altogether 71 individuals were located, in groups of up to ten persons. They were found by driving through the desert until smoke in the distance indicated their presence. The vehicles were then driven to within two or three kilometres of the smoke, when camp was made and a fire was lit. Eventually the Aborigines' curiosity overcame their fear and they walked into the camp. The men came first, followed an hour or two later by women and children. The last to approach were the Aborigines' domestic dingos.

The Aborigines' health was examined by a doctor, who also took blood samples from most adults and some children, for later examination in Perth. He found a surprisingly high level of morbidity among the people. Many had yaws, a disease caused by a spirochaete similar to that which causes syphilis (but yaws is non-venereal). It was dormant in most cases, being evident only in the blood samples, but one man had an advanced stage of the disease. Many individuals had symptoms of trachoma, and several had badly decayed teeth. So the commonly held belief that Aborigines were healthy while in their traditional state did not apply in those cases.

The people found on the expedition were naked and had no metallic implements — they possessed only wooden spears, woomeras, digging sticks, and coolamons, together with grinding stones and human-hair string used to bind their hair and as belts to hold the lizards that they killed. Female children had sticky seeds decorating their hair. Some men also carried small sacred objects from camp to camp, carefully wrapped in paper bark and tied up with human-hair string, ensuring that they were never seen by women and children. Each woomera had a sharp piece of flint, glued in place at the end of the handle, and this was used as an adze for carving wood to

make implements and coolamon containers. They camped in the open around rock holes and wells dug to the water table through sand. At that time there must have been hundreds of such wells scattered through the desert country, but all are now disused and no doubt filled by drifting sand. The Aborigines were fully occupied throughout each day in hunting and gathering food, which consisted mostly of lizards and vegetable products, especially seeds from various plants. They displayed remarkable skills in tracking lizards and other animals across the desert country.

All of the nomadic Aborigines in and around the Kimberley ceased their traditional hunter-gatherer lifestyles long ago, in order to live on pastoral stations, missions, and government settlements. When they first settled on pastoral stations, the Aborigines generally lived in humpies constructed from discarded material around the station buildings. They reached informal agreements with the station owners and managers, whereby they were provided with food, clothing, and minimal wages in exchange for their work in stock camps and around the station homestead. The men enjoyed, and took pride in, their skills as stockmen, while the women worked as domestic servants, gardeners, etc. During the wet season they would go walkabout to gather traditional foods, conduct ceremonies, visit sacred sites, etc. This system represented an accommodation between the needs of the pastoralists on one hand and the Aborigines on the other. However, it was essentially a feudal system that could not be allowed to continue, and it came to an end with the enactment of equal-wages legislation in 1965 and its implementation in 1968. As a result of this change most Aborigines in the Kimberley area were displaced from the stations into neighboring towns, including Fitzroy Crossing, Halls Creek, Derby, and Broome.

The present situation for many Aborigines in those towns can only be described as dismal, with high unemployment and serious problems involving alcohol, drugs, and physical abuse. However, the situation for these people can be expected to improve. Opportunities exist for some to apply their natural talents as artists, with considerable success, and for others to be employed in mining and tourism. Measures have been taken to diminish alcohol abuse, and it is pleasing that several Aboriginal-owned pastoral properties and other Kimberley enterprises have proved to be successful.

REST IN PEACE

Three of the Kimberley Society's founding members passed away in May – Eric (Rick) Green on the 11th, F Lloyd Butcher on the 13th, and Rosalind Denny on the 23rd. All were regulars at our meetings until declining health curbed their attendance. Rick's funeral service was conducted in St Michael's Anglican Church, Mt Pleasant, on 16 May, followed by a private cremation. Lloyd's funeral service took place in Leanne O'Dea's Midland Chapel on 20 May, and was also followed by a private cremation. Rosalind's funeral had yet to be held at the time of writing but was due to take place at St George's Cathedral, Perth, on 30 May. Condolences to Sallie Green and June Butcher, and to family and friends of Rick, Lloyd and Rosalind.

RARE BOOK SOLD

Only one formal bid was received for E J Stuart's *A Land of Opportunities: being an account of the author's recent expedition to explore the northern territories of Australia*. Donated by Robin Roe and advertised in the April newsletter, with a reserve price of \$60 and bids closing on 18 April, the book brought in \$81. It was purchased by an ex-Perth member now resident in the Northern Territory.

KIMBERLEY SOCIETY INC

DRAFT MINUTES OF THE 15TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Held at the Shenton Park Community Centre on Wednesday 5th March 2008

Opening:

The meeting, attended by 41 members and more than 20 visitors, was opened by the President, Hamish McGlashan, at 7.34pm.

Apologies:

Apologies were received from Sue Clarkson, Margaret and Leith Young, Roz Denny and Perpetua Durack-Clancy.

Minutes of 14th Annual General Meeting:

The minutes of the 14th Annual General Meeting, held 7 March 2007 were approved and the President authorised to sign them as a correct record. Moved D Edinger, seconded P Knight.

Matters Arising:

There were no matters arising.

President's Report:

The President, Hamish McGlashan, presented a written report and briefly summarised the report to the meeting. The highlight of the year was the successful publication and sales of the Society's "Rock Art of the Kimberley", which contained a series of papers presented at the seminar held in 2005. Thanks were given to Mike Donaldson in particular for his efforts in both organising the seminar and pursuing the publication of the book. Kevin Kenneally was thanked for his role in assisting Mike with editorial work and Lyn Donaldson was thanked for her efforts in facilitating the book's distribution.

Cathie Clement was thanked for her ongoing efforts in compiling and editing the Boab Bulletin.

Treasurer's Report:

The Treasurer, Gilbert Marsh, circulated financial statements for 2007 for member's perusal and summarised the position to the meeting. The Society remains in a strong financial position with total cash funds exceeding \$21 000. Income from the sale of the rock art book (\$31 922.80) had essentially paid for all printing and publication costs. A donation of \$1 000 from the Kimberley Foundation was noted with appreciation. A significant number of rock art books remain unsold and have a value (at cost) of \$20 167.

Election of Office Bearers:

The President stood down from the chair and Mr Jeff Gresham informed the meeting that Mr Hamish McGlashan had been nominated, and was willing to continue, as President, There being no other nominations Mr McGlashan was elected unopposed and resumed the chair.

The following nominations for Office Bearers had been received:

Vice Presidents	Jack Vercoe and Cathie Clement
Treasurer	Gilbert Marsh
Secretary	Jeffrey Gresham
Membership Secretary	Mike Donaldson
Councillors	Adrienne Boulter, Kevin Kenneally, Susan Clarkson and Daphne Edinger

There being no other nominations, all nominations were endorsed and the President thanked the Council members for their ongoing support.

Other Business:

There was no other business.

Closure:

There being no other business the President closed the meeting at 7.45pm.

[To be confirmed at the 2009 AGM]

**KIMBERLEY SOCIETY INCORPORATED
STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE**

	2006		2007
Income			
Annual Subscriptions	4805.42		7380.50
Donations/Raffle	1674.00		822.00
GST Rebate	840.00		1581.00
Rock Art Book			31922.80
RAB Postage			930.15
Athol Farrant's Books			610.00
Loan			14000.00
Donation to Rock Art Book			1000.00
Interest	24.38		12.84
Book Sales			35.00
Total Expenditure	7,343.80		58,294.29
Expenditure			
Guest Speaker Costs	639.78		144.00
GST	410.00		1197.00
Postages and Petties	474.18		499.04
Publishing	2825.20		2646.31
Rock Art	1650.00		33778.51
Hall Hire	635.25		1721.05
PO Box	166.00		180.00
Insurance	646.25		646.25
Raffle Expenses	405.90		370.80
Supper Expenses Refund	136.27		51.83
Cost of Projector			1925.00
Purchase of CD			31.80
Loan Refund			14000.00
Donation			200.00
Bank charges			16.50
Dishonour Fees	20.00		0.00
Total Expenditure	8008.83		57408.09
Surplus income over expenditure	-665.03		886.20
BALANCE OF SOCIETY FUNDS			
Balance Brought Forward	21539.73		20874.70
	Deficit	665.03	Surplus
Current Balance	20874.70		22650.20
			43524.90
Current Assets			
Chq a/c No 1 Bankwest	7252.83		13586.77
Chq a/c No 2 Bankwest	9077.1		10017.63
Term Deposit	4544.77	Cash held	156.50
Rock Art Books in stock at cost			20167.00
Fixed Assets			
Projector at cost			1925.00
Liabilities			
Unpresented Chq			-2000.00
ATO			-328.00
Assets less liabilities	20874.70		43524.90

Editor's note: The date of issuing the renewal forms influences the figure for Annual Subscriptions.

KALUMBURU MISSION: NEW NORCIA STUDIES DAY, 17 MAY 2008

A hundred or so visitors enjoyed an interesting and informative Saturday in the autumn sunshine and beautiful surroundings of the monastery. Kimberley Society members were well represented in the participants and speakers.

Dr Ian Crawford opened the proceedings with a talk entitled "Kalumburu: 1963-2007, Some Reflections". He first visited in 1963 with Albert Barunga. At that time the old people and those who were not part of the mission community lived "across the river" – a lively place with daily dances – and polygamy and arranged marriages were still common. Multiple dogs were a problem and were also banished across the river. Ian traced later changes against the wider background of the referendum, the loss of work on stations, and the move to a cash economy. Remoteness insulated Kalumburu from many of the changes taking place in the towns. An Aboriginal Community Council was set up and powers transferred from the mission; however the lack of a tradition of delegation of responsibility proved a problem. In the 1970s the camp across the river was still there but the vitality had gone. The outstation movement started but it was less prominent from Kalumburu than from the towns.

Lindsay Peet's subject was "A Very Convenient Location: Kalumburu Mission During World War II". The close proximity to Timor and Indonesia was well recognised and the RAAF had surveyed the area in 1924 and 1935. The Kalumburu air strip was initially the only place that could launch attacks on the Japanese bases in Timor. Aboriginal labour from the mission was used to construct the airstrip and later build the base at Truscott some kilometres to the west. An early warning radar system was one of the first in the southern hemisphere. Air raids started in 1942, and on one attack a missionary and five aboriginal men were killed, despite MISSION being written in large red letters on the roof. Transport of supplies was by lugger but all commercial shipping ceased after the attack on the *Koolama* in which the mission played a significant part in the rescue. A Liberator bomber crashed close by on a return from a raid on Balikpapan in Borneo and again the mission was involved in the rescue of the crew.

After a splendid lunch, Dr Christine Choo told us of "The Girls' Dormitory at Kalumburu Mission". This was a copy of the system used at New Norcia and Beagle Bay Missions. In 1909 a boys' dormitory was started for five half-caste boys; the girls' dormitory did not commence until the 1920s, ten occupants initially rising to over 40 in the sixties. The purpose of the dormitories was to protect the girls from abuse and from some of the pastoralists but it entailed a forced separation from their traditional culture, even though they were free to visit their families. A great concern was the declining population and birth rate, and when the girls left the dormitories there was a gratifying increase in the birth rate. The missionaries were concerned about the lack of spiritual progress. The present problems in the community may reflect some of the oppressive disadvantage of the dormitory system.

Finally, Professor Robert Reece from Murdoch University talked on "Daisy Bates & New Norcia". This was a fascinating study of an enigmatic character whose background was not what she stated. She developed her interest in Aboriginal anthropology after a four-month visit to Beagle Bay. Her letters at that time were supportive of the mission but privately she remained sceptical. Her published work in the early years of the twentieth century was well respected and valuable, though later articles, mostly written as a journalist for the *Western Mail*, may be more prone to imagination and lapses of memory.

Abbot Placid Spearritt chaired the meeting with charm and humour and ensured that all speakers stuck to the timetable. The full transcripts of the meeting will be

published and will be of interest to all those who wish to know more details of an important place in Kimberley history.

Hamish McGlashan

COASTAL TOURISM

The delivery of tourism services on the Kimberley coast reached new heights at the end of April when the 77,000-tonne *Sun Princess*, touted as the largest cruise ship to visit the coast, anchored in Prince Frederick Harbour. Carrying 1950 passengers and 900 crew, the ship, which measures 261 metres and is classed as a superliner, later passed through the Buccaneer Archipelago and continued on to Broome. A second voyage is scheduled to occur in August.

ATHOL FARRANT'S BOOKS

The last book of the 37 donated by the family of our late member Athol Farrant sold as a result of the publicity in the April newsletter and went to a Queensland member. The total yielded by the books is \$610 (corrected from the figure reported in the last newsletter, where the amount inadvertently included some money paid for postage). The money will be put to good use. It is great that the books have gone directly to people interested in the Kimberley. Reading gave Athol a lot of pleasure and he would have been glad to know that these books not only benefited the Society but also went to his friends and fellow members.

RAFFLE PRIZES

One of the winners of the May raffle selected the first of six bottles of Penfolds Kalimna Shiraz 2003 donated by Lindsay Peet. Thanks Lindsay!

COUNCIL 2008-2009

President:	Hamish McGlashan
Vice-Presidents:	Jack Vercoe and Cathie Clement
Secretary:	Jeffrey Gresham
Membership Secretary:	Mike Donaldson
Treasurer:	Gilbert Marsh
Councillors:	Kevin Kenneally, Daphne Edinger, Susan Clarkson and Adrienne Boulter

Grant Sellwood manages the Kimberley Society's Web site (www.kimberleysociety.org). It carries summaries of the Society's talks (as published in the *Boab Bulletin* but sometimes with additional images), FAQs, and information about the Society and how to join it.

© Kimberley Society Inc. 2008

Dr Cathie Clement OAM edits this newsletter for the Kimberley Society. The material it contains is copyright but may be cited with acknowledgment. Correspondence, including requests to reproduce articles, reports or book notes, should be directed to The Editor, Kimberley Society, PO Box 8471, Perth Business Centre, Perth, WA, 6849; E-mail clement@q-net.net.au; telephone (08) 9272 3308; or facsimile (08) 9272 2087.

DISCLAIMER: The opinions and the information presented in this newsletter are offered solely to inform members about matters that may interest them. The Council of the Kimberley Society accepts no responsibility for the newsletter's content, and it advises readers to obtain appropriate advice before they either apply information from the newsletter to particular circumstances or use it as a basis for formulating decisions.