

ANME News

Newsletter of

ANME AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL
MUSEUM OF EDUCATION

<https://www.canberra.edu.au/anme/>

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Editor: Dr Geoffrey Burkhardt

International Visitors



This year the ANME has already hosted three international delegations, one from China and two from Indonesia. The Chinese delegation included the Minister-Counsellor and Secretaries of the Embassy of the People's Republic of China in Canberra. Indonesian visitors (*pictured opposite with ANME Director*. Photo courtesy of Putra Putrawangsa) have included Professor Rohmat Mulyana Sadi, Secretary of the

Director-General of Education, Dr Thobib Al Asyhar, Director of Teachers and Educational Personnel for Madrasah, Abdullah Hanif, Head of the General Affairs and State Property Section, the Secretariat of the Directorate General of Islamic Education and Dr Abdul Munir, University of Canberra Representative in Indonesia. The Indonesian visits were for the Ministry of Religious Affairs (MORA) Indonesian Executive Leadership Training Program in association with the University of Canberra. We are grateful to ANME Deputy Director, Coralie Amos OAM, ANME Collections Manager, Lee Wilde, UC International Relations Officer, Frank Guo, Sitti Maesuri Patahuddin, Associate Professor in STEM Education and Director of Indonesian Partnerships, Faculty of Education, Putra Putrawangsa, Director of MORA and Indah Lestar, Project Assistant, for assisting with these visits. (*Photo: Chinese Delegation. Courtesy of Frank Guo*)



ANME Welcomes New Executive Dean



It is a great pleasure to welcome Professor Julian Knowles as the new Executive Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Design (FAD). Professor Knowles comes to the University of Canberra with a wealth of expertise from Macquarie University in Sydney. We look forward to continuing our long association and support from the Faculty during Professor Knowles's leadership.

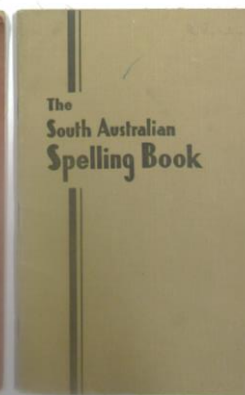
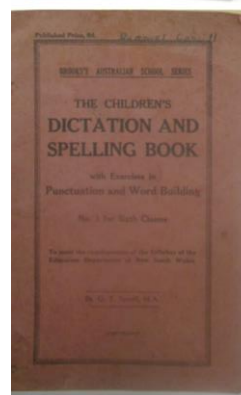
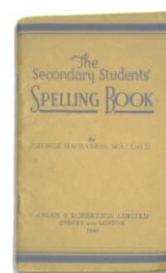
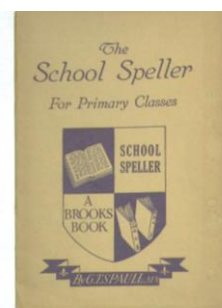
(Photo: Courtesy of Liam Budge, UC Media and Communications)

School Spelling Books: Relics of the Past?

One of the special categories of ANME's extensive collection of nineteenth and early twentieth century school textbooks is its collection of published spelling books used in schools during those time periods. Since the demise of the rigorous teaching of spelling as a prescribed component of the primary school syllabus in recent decades, together with the advent of the ubiquitous "spell check" facility of personal computers in the 1980s, published spelling books became less used and were discarded by many teachers and students no longer a curriculum necessity. Spelling books were used in some schools in Britain as early as the seventeenth century (refer *A New Spelling Book*, by Thomas Lye (1677)). The earliest spelling books in

Australia arrived with the First Fleet in 1788, according to Colonial Chaplain Richard

Johnson, who recorded that he brought with him a number of *Dixon's Spelling Books* along with bibles, catechisms and prayer books. The ANME holds a collection of approximately 40 spelling books, a few examples being: *Spelling Book for Advanced Classes*, Wigg & Sons Educational Series, Adelaide 1906; *Word Expositor and Spelling Guide*, by George Coutie, Nelson & Sons, London, 1902; *Angus and Robertson's New Syllabus Spellers*, Sydney, 1944 edition; Spaulding, G.T., *The Children's Dictation and Spelling Book No 1, for Sixth Classes*, Brooks Australian School Series, Sydney, 1934. With current changes occurring in curriculum theory, the need for updated spelling books has been addressed by an increase recently in the publishing and utilization of school spelling books.



Profile of a School Museum

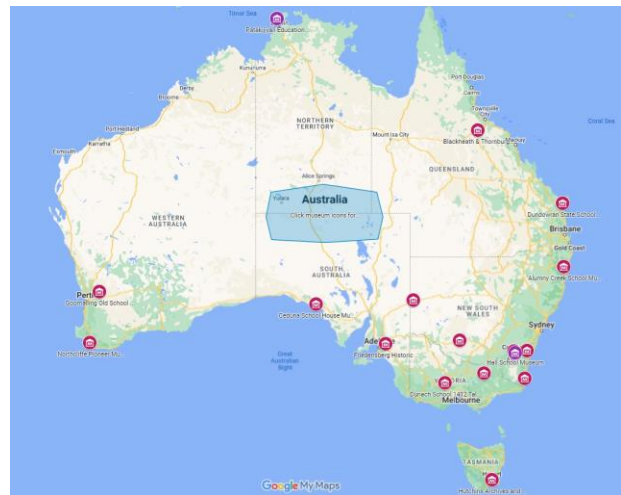


The Uleybury School and teacher's residence in South Australia was built in 1856 and owes its beginnings to Moses Bendle Garlick, a Baptist layman, weaver and soldier in the Napoleonic Wars. The first teacher, John Mattingly, taught 18 boys and 16 girls. It was conducted much like a church school until 1874, when it came under jurisdiction of the Government. The school was renamed the One Tree Hill Primary School in 1946.

The school remained open until 1971 and was the oldest school building still in use by the South Australian Education Department. It was restored in 1978 and reopened as a museum. On display are school memorabilia, photographs and copies of school records including student rolls. The former lunch shed offers a gallery of historical information about the local area, a model of the Lady Alice Mine, and an interactive display of past time children's activities. The City of Playford owns and maintains the premises.

Heritage Festival Display

During the Canberra and Region Annual Heritage Festival in April, the ANME mounted a display in the Mura Gadi Gallery, University of Canberra Library. Titled "Classroom Connections", several items of historical significance were displayed, including documents, artefacts, and classroom wall charts used in the teaching of primary school children in the early decades of the twentieth century. The focal point of the exhibition was a large interactive map of Australia where visitors



could click on selected school museums to view a sample of their collections. Much appreciation is extended to ANME Manager of Technology Services, Peter Fock and Le Yu, Facilities and Technical Support Coordinator, for making this possible.

ANME's Value Added Services to the University of Canberra

The ANME is the only national museum of education in the Southern Hemisphere and only one of five with “National” status in the world. As such, the ANME makes a most valued contribution to the work and function of the University of Canberra. In addition to providing opportunities for students to pursue research projects related to their courses, the ANME fosters international links through visits to U.C. by top level delegations from Asian nations. One of the main contributions of the ANME to the University is through its “Community Outreach” activities. It is said that the future of the university museum lies in it being a publicly accessible institution, serving not only the university but with strong emphasis on serving the wider community. (Lyndel King¹ in her article “University Museums in the 21st century”).

University museums are increasingly called upon to serve as a link between the campus and the community and play an important role in the public service and outreach mission of the university. The ANME at the University of Canberra pursues these roles through five categories of activities:

1. Establishing a structure for the contact and co-operation with approximately eighty school museums throughout the six states and two territories of Australia.
2. Co-operation with local, state and national museums in the Australian community, regarding the arrangement of exhibitions and displays of items relating to aspects of the history of education in Australia
3. The conduct and pursuit of educational research into aspects of the history of Australian education through ANME's publishing program, which includes: an *Annual Monograph* publication; an *Occasional Paper Series*; a quarterly newsletter *ANME News*; and a school museum guide, *School Museums, A Handbook for their Planning and Management*.
4. A “Community Outreach” program of visits and excursions to historical schools, nineteenth century schoolhouse museums, inspection of school archives held by selected government and private primary and secondary schools. The ANME's “Community Outreach” program also includes the arrangement of displays at annual national and local conferences of historical societies, e.g. Royal Australian Historical Society annual conferences.
5. Joint organization of national history of education conferences, e.g. With the Australian and New Zealand History of Education Association.

¹ King, Lyndel, “University Museums in the Twenty-first Century” in *Managing University Museums*, O.E.C.A. 2