JAMES ANDERSON PATON
One of the graves visited on our first tour of the year, 'Notable Interments' on Sunday April 13, was that of James Anderson Paton. Paton’s life epitomised that of the many emigrants who took maximum advantage of the opportunities offered in Australia. A public servant, pastoralist, explorer, vigneron and artist, he had arrived in Port Phillip in 1851 after being educated at the Scottish Naval and Military Academy where he developed an interest in drawing.

Appointed by Latrobe as assistant gold commissioner to Kangaroo Flat near Bendigo, he handled the diggers protests with tact and conciliation in contrast to Colonel Rede at Ballarat. In 1854 he assisted in organising the Melbourne Exhibition and later the Melbourne International Exhibition in 1880. In 1858 he studied art in Paris. As a magistrate at Heidelberg, he mapped the Yarra Valley, leaving his name at Panton Hills, and he also named Mount Donna Buang.

He was active as a painter in the Victorian Artists Association and regularly attended musical recitals. In Bendigo he owned prize-winning vineyards and was an early and strong advocate for the local vine industry.

Paton married Eleanor Margaret Fulton in 1860. Their daughter, Amy, was a well-known portrait painter and the exquisite Celtic headstone she designed for her father in St Kilda Cemetery is a fitting tribute to this dynamic and versatile Australian.

WHAT A WAY TO GO
We were fortunate to once again have Elizabeth Hore as our tour guide on Sunday 18th May. One of the graves visited was that of CRAWFORD HENRY MOLLISON (1863-1949), Medical and forensic pathologist. Born at Sandhurst (Bendigo), son of Crawford Mollison, goldfields warden. and his wife Elizabeth, he was sent at 7 to school at Tunbridge Wells in England and later to Geelong and Melbourne Church of England Grammar schools. He then studied medicine at the University of Melbourne. After travel and study abroad for several years he returned to Melbourne, set up in general practice and became a demonstrator in anatomy at the university.
After the death of his first wife in 1891 he turned to pathology and became honorary pathologist at the Children’s Hospital (1891-1904). He was appointed assistant pathologist at the Melbourne Hospital in 1892 and senior assistant pathologist in 1911, holding that post until 1938 when he was appointed consulting pathologist. In 1893 he became coroner’s surgeon and was a lecturer in forensic medicine at the University of Melbourne in 1904-43.

FORTHCOMING TOURS AND EVENTS

Sunday 15 June 2pm Barons, Knights and Dames
St Kilda Cemetery is the resting place for many recipients of Imperial and foreign honours. At a time when Australia is re-introducing titles, this tour will visit the graves of two nineteenth century Barons, a Dame of the British Empire and just a few of the more than twenty-five distinguished Knights buried within the Cemetery. The tour will visit the graves of Sir Norman and Dame Mabel Brooke. It will stop at the temporary resting place of military engineer and Crimean War veteran, Sir Peter Scratchley. It will also visit the grave of a most remarkable man who was a recipient of many foreign titles, including a Knighthood from the King of the Hawaiian Islands in 1882.

Sunday July 13 2-4pm at the Emerald Hill Library and Heritage Centre, 195 Bank St (opposite the South Melbourne Town Hall)

If these stones could speak.
Take an armchair tour of the historic St Kilda Cemetery with the President, Kay Rowan. Afternoon tea will be served.

Sunday August 17 2pm Artists Tour
This is a repeat of our popular artists’ tour. We are visiting many of our old favourites, including Hugh Ramsay, but this time paying particular attention to Australian War Artists as it is 100 years this year since WWI commenced. Between 1918-1919, James Peter Quinn was engaged as an official war artist for the AIF in France. On his return to Australia, he continued to exhibit as an artist of renown until his death in 1951. Another favourite on previous tours is Sybil Craig. Craig was commissioned as a war artist during WWI and her colourful and impressionist work captures the activity of women working in the Commonwealth Ordnance Factory, Maribyrnong.

Bookings: 9531 6832 or see our web site

NOTE THAT TOURS ARE NOW FREE FOR MEMBERS OF FOSKCK; $10 for non-members

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS ARE DUE BY JUNE 30.