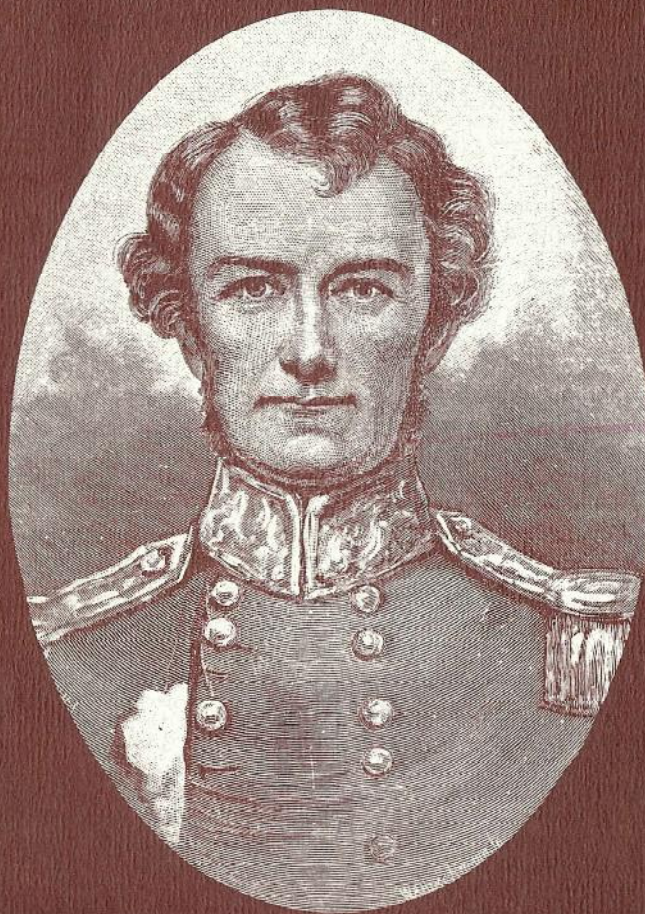


# La Trobe Centenary Commemoration

*Programme*





## Charles Joseph La Trobe First Lieutenant-Governor Victoria

Charles Joseph La Trobe did more to shape the State of Victoria than any other man.

He arrived in 1839 only four years after the first white settlement when the population numbered fewer than 6000. When he left in 1854 Victoria was the richest and most populous of the Australian colonies. The population was touching 300,000, self-government had been won, the goldfields were booming, the public library and art gallery were established and the university founded — the whole framework of modern Victoria had been set up.

La Trobe was First Superintendent of Port Phillip District from 1839 to 1850 and first Lieutenant-Governor of the new colony of Victoria from 1851. He had worked as a teacher in England and tutor in Switzerland (where he married Sophie de Montmollin of Neuchâtel) before he visited the West Indies to report on negro education. After travels in Europe and North America he wrote four books on his experiences.

At Port Phillip he encouraged the development of aboriginal welfare and education and authorised establishment of the native police corps in 1842. Travelling on horseback he visited many sheep stations in the district and saw at first hand the emergence of settled communities. In Melbourne he had interests in the churches of St James and St Peters, the inauguration of the Melbourne Hospital, the National Museum and the Mechanics' Institute.

During the 1840's the first Government offices were opened on Batman's Hill, the Botanic Gardens site was reserved, the Melbourne Town Council was established and the first Elizabeth Street Post Office opened. La Trobe served as Administrator of Van Diemen's Land during 1846-47.

He gave assent to the Victorian Act to establish the University of Melbourne in 1853 and in 1854 the Constitution Act was passed. Between 1851 and 1854 government departments such as the PMG, the Goldfields Commission and the Police Force were created by La Trobe. He faced complex and unenviable problems with the discovery of gold. There was a vast population influx and no services to cater for the gold-seeking masses; nevertheless La Trobe and his officers managed to keep unrest on the diggings under control. New towns appeared and the building of railways and telegraph lines began. The Supreme Court was established in 1852.

La Trobe sailed for England in May, 1854, knowing that Sophie had died in Switzerland some months earlier. Jolimont, where La Trobe erected his cottage, is named after his wife's home and Agnes and Charles Streets in Jolimont are named for two of La Trobe's children. La Trobe later married Sophie's sister.

He was created a Companion of the Bath in 1858 and was granted a small colonial governor's pension in 1865 (the year he became blind). He died in England on December 4, 1875.

## Preliminary Events

**Tuesday,  
2nd December:**  
9.30 a.m.

Schools essay competition — "Our debt to Charles Joseph La Trobe."  
Announcement of winner and presentation of award by the Honourable L. H. S. Thompson, C.M.G., M.P., Minister of Education, at La Trobe Cottage, Domain Gardens, South Yarra.  
Prize: Eight day tour of Tasmania, courtesy of TAA and AAT.

**Wednesday,  
3rd December:**  
8.00 p.m.

Symposium on Charles Joseph La Trobe at the Regional Library, Geelong.  
Organised by the Geelong Historical Society.

## Continuing Events

**1st —  
12th December**  
Bank  
trading hours

Display of maps and plans of early Melbourne and Victoria. Bank of New South Wales, corner of Collins and Swanston Streets, Melbourne.

**3rd —  
12th December**  
Bank  
trading hours

Display of medical equipment of La Trobe's period, C.B.C. Bank, 251 Collins Street, Melbourne.  
Organised by the Royal Melbourne Hospital in association with the Australian Medical Association.

**5th December —  
31st March**

La Trobe Library, State Library of Victoria, (entrance La Trobe St.)  
"La Trobe's Melbourne 1839-1854":  
A display of pictures, including La Trobe's own sketches, original documents and rare printed books, showing the growth of Melbourne from a small pioneering community to the capital city of the Crown Colony of Victoria.

**6th —  
14th December**

An exhibition of La Trobe's own sketches and furniture of the La Trobe era, at La Trobe Cottage, Domain Gardens, South Yarra.  
Organised by the National Trust of Australia (Vic).

## Programme

**Thursday, 4th December:**  
100th anniversary of the death of Charles Joseph La Trobe.

10.00 a.m.

Yarra River at William Street (adjacent Ansett Helipad) and Flagstaff Gardens.

**Re-enactment of La Trobe's arrival in Port Phillip in October 1839.**

La Trobe will arrive by boat and be met by schoolchildren dressed in clothes of the time. Shirley Jacobs will sing a specially written folksong as a tribute to La Trobe. The children will then accompany La Trobe along William Street to the Flagstaff Gardens, where he will deliver his first speech in the new settlement. At the Flagstaff Gardens, La Trobe will interrupt a mock land auction, which will continue after his speech.

10.00 a.m.

**Civic Square**

The La Trobe Commemoration Temporary "Post Office" will open for the sale of La Trobe pictorial postmarker and souvenir envelopes. Distribution of La Trobe parchment scrolls with special wax seals.

12.00 noon

**Memorial Service**

St. Peter's Eastern Hill Church, where La Trobe was a foundation member.

His Excellency Sir Henry Winneke, K.C.M.G., O.B.E., Q.C., Governor of Victoria, will arrive after travelling with a mounted police escort from Government House, along St. Kilda Road, Swanston Street, La Trobe Street, Spring Street and Albert Street.

The service will be conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. G. J. Taylor. His Excellency will also give a brief address.

12.45 p.m.

Mounted police will escort His Excellency to Parliament House via Albert Street and Spring Street.



1.00 p.m. **Plaque Unveiling**  
*Steps of Parliament House.*  
His Excellency will unveil a plaque in memory of La Trobe.  
Descendants of members of the first Legislative Council and the first Parliament will attend. These bodies were established during La Trobe's term of office.

5.30 p.m. **La Trobe Library**  
*"La Trobe's Melbourne 1839-1854"*  
The official opening will be performed by Dr. John Henry de la Trobe of Hamburg, Germany. Dr. de la Trobe is a descendant of Charles Joseph La Trobe. (By invitation)

**Friday, 5th December:**

11.00 a.m. **Display of native plants**  
*Civic Square.*  
Gardening expert Kevin Heinze, assisted by apprentices from the Gardening School of Oakleigh Technical School, will give hourly talks on home landscaping and the care of native Australian plants. A special Herbarium will be erected by the students.

12.00 noon **Lord Mayoral Tribute to La Trobe**  
*Civic Square.*  
The Melbourne City Council first met during La Trobe's term of office.  
Councillor R. J. Walker, J.P., the Right Honourable the Lord Mayor of Melbourne, will pay tribute to La Trobe. The Victoria Police Brass Band will play.

6.00 p.m. **La Trobe Cottage**  
Preview of exhibition of La Trobe's own sketches and furniture of the period.  
Organised by the National Trust of Australia (Vic.)  
Changing of the guard ceremony. (By invitation)

**Saturday, 6th December:**

10.00 a.m. — **Qantas Paint-out**  
5.00 p.m. *Open air art competition, Royal Botanic Gardens. La Trobe founded the Gardens and was himself an artist. As a tribute to him, all Victorians are invited to gather their paints, brushes and canvases and spend the day painting in the gardens.*  
The winning artist will fly Qantas, the Australian Airline, to Rome.

10.30 a.m. **Memorial Tree**  
Planting of La Trobe memorial tree in the Royal Botanic Gardens by Dr. J. Henry de la Trobe.

11.00 a.m. **La Trobe Cottage**  
Official opening of exhibition by Dr. J. Henry de la Trobe.  
Changing of the guard ceremony.

2.30 p.m. **Mornington Peninsula**  
In honour of La Trobe, a public ceremony will be held to name "La Trobe Reserve", Dromana. The Honourable R. J. Hamer, E.D., M.P., Premier of Victoria, will officiate. Music by the Shire of Flinders Band.  
Organised by the South Eastern Historical Association in collaboration with the Shire of Flinders.

3.00 p.m. **Reception at Mc Crae Homestead.**  
Organised by the South Eastern Historical Association in collaboration with the Mc Crae Homestead Committee of the National Trust.  
(By invitation)

3.00 p.m. **Library Exhibition**  
The Peninsula Regional Library, Rosebud, will be open to the public for a special display on this day.

*La Trobe was a frequent visitor to the Peninsula and a close friend of the Mc Crae family.*

**Sunday,  
7th December:**

**La Trobe Golf Tournament**  
La Trobe Golf Club, Alphington.  
Two hundred players from fifty clubs will compete in a tournament organised by the La Trobe Golf Club.  
The Honourable Sir Edmund Francis Herring, K.C.M.G., K.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., K.St.J., E.D., former Lieutenant-Governor and Patron of the Club, will be present. Dr. and Mrs. J. Henry de la Trobe will be playing and will present the trophies.

11.00 a.m. **Memorial Service**  
St. Patrick's Cathedral, East Melbourne. The Most Rev. J. A. Kelly, D.D., Auxiliary Archbishop of Melbourne, will officiate. La Trobe was personally responsible for saving this site, which had been ear-marked as an extension of Bourke Street.

1.00 p.m. **Ballarat**  
Re-enactment of one of La Trobe's visits to the town and surrounding goldfields.  
Organised by the Sovereign Hill Gold Mining Township.  
La Trobe will arrive in a carriage accompanied by 12 mounted troopers, and will be met at the Town Hall by the Mayor of Ballarat, Councillor M. Brown, dressed in 1850's mayoral robes. La Trobe and the mayoral party will then move to Montrose Cottage and afterwards to Sovereign Hill for an inspection of the goldfields.

3.00 p.m. **Queenscliff**  
A memorial service will be held on the approximate site of La Trobe's cottage at Queenscliff, followed by a ception for the unveiling of a plaque by Councillor F. C. Heweston, Mayor of the Borough of Queenscliff, in memory of La Trobe. Organised by St. Georges Church of England, Queenscliff, and Queenscliff Borough Council.



## Programme Cont.

- Litlington, England**  
A memorial service will be held at the Parish Church of St. Michael the Archangel, where La Trobe is buried. The service will be conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. Thompson, and attended by the Agent-General for Victoria, the Honourable Sir Murray Porter.
- Monday, 8th December: 5.30 p.m.**  
**Government House Reception**  
His Excellency the Governor of Victoria will launch the book, *The Letters of Charles Joseph La Trobe*, edited by L. J. Blake, O.B.E., State Historian. (By invitation)
- Tuesday, 9th December 8.15 p.m.**  
**Great Hall Oration**  
Mrs. K. Fitzpatrick, B.A.(Melb.), M.A.(Oxon.), will deliver an oration entitled, "Charles Joseph La Trobe", in the Great Hall of the National Gallery of Victoria, in the presence of His Excellency the Governor and Lady Winneke. Dr. J. Henry de la Trobe will also give a brief address. (By invitation)
- Thursday, 11th December:**  
**State Dinner**  
His Excellency and Lady Winneke will entertain guests at a State dinner at Government House, in honour of Dr. and Mrs J. Henry de la Trobe. (By invitation)
- Friday, 12th December: 8.15 p.m.**  
**La Trobe University**  
Dr. A. G. Serle, D.Phil. Oxon., B.A.(Melb.), will deliver the inaugural lecture of the Annual La Trobe Memorial Lectures, on the topic: "Noble Vision and Harsh Realities: C. J. La Trobe and Early Victoria." The Chancellor, the Honourable Mr. Justice Smithers, will chair the lecture which will be held in the Agora Theatre, La Trobe University, Bundoora.
- Saturday, 13th December: 10.30 a.m.**  
**Cape Otway**  
Mr. D. Walker, an expert on the history of Cape Otway lighthouse, will give a slide-talk presentation at

- Lavers Hill School**, illustrating La Trobe's efforts to reach Cape Otway in 1848, and the building of the lighthouse.
- 2.00 p.m.**  
**Sir John Holland, Chairman La Trobe Centenary Commemoration Committee**, will unveil a plaque in memory of La Trobe at Cape Otway lighthouse. Tours of the lighthouse will follow.
- 4.15 p.m.**  
**Presentation of prizes by Sir John Holland to winners of the local junior schools' project competition on La Trobe**, followed by a repeat of the slide-talk presentation. Organised by the Heytesbury District Historical Society.
- Sunday, 14th December: 10.00 a.m.**  
**Memorial Service**  
St. James Old Cathedral, conducted by the Rt. Rev. J. A. Grant, Co-Adjutor Bishop of Melbourne. St. James was built and used during La Trobe's time in Port Phillip.
- 2.15 p.m.**  
**Geelong**  
**Hunt for the Keys: a treasure hunt for children in Eastern Park, Geelong.**
- 3.15 p.m.**  
**Mr. L. J. Blake, State Historian**, will unveil a plaque in memory of La Trobe in the Geelong Botanical Gardens.
- Immediately following**, Councillor J. Holt, the Mayor of Geelong, will re-open Geelong's first Customs House, now placed in the Gardens. Organised by the Geelong City Council.
- 2.15 p.m.**  
**Williamstown**  
"Lieutenant-Governor La Trobe" will arrive by sea at Point Gellibrand and be met by the present Lieutenant-Governor, the Honourable Sir John Young, K.C.M.G., Q.C., Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Victoria.

Sail past of yachts, reviewed by La Trobe and Sir John Young. The party will then proceed to the Timeball Tower, where a letter of La Trobe's will be read and a plaque unveiled in his memory. Organised by Williamstown Historical Society and Williamstown City Council.

## Acknowledgements:

Australian Associated Tours  
Australian Medical Association  
Australian Postal Commission  
Ballarat City Council  
Bank of New South Wales  
Miss Caroline Burston  
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Department of Crown Lands and Survey  
Federal Department of Transport  
Flinders Shire Council  
Gardening Apprentice School,  
Oakleigh Technical School  
Mr. Kevin Heinze  
International Public Relations  
John Clemenger Pty. Ltd.  
Melbourne City Council  
Mr. Michael Meszaros  
Mr. Dan Murphy, The Cellar Pty. Ltd.  
National Trust of Australia (Vic.)  
Qantas Airways  
Queenscliff Borough Council  
Miss Joan Ritchie  
Royal Historical Society of Victoria  
Royal Melbourne Hospital  
Sovereign Hill Gold Mining Township  
State Library of Victoria  
Trans-Australia Airlines  
Victorian Department of Education  
Victorian Golf Association  
Victorian Police Department  
Victorian Yachting Council  
Mr. Peter Warner, R.M.I.T.  
Mr. Dean White  
Mr. Ray Williams, Peninsula  
Regional Library  
Williamstown City Council

## *Historical Societies participating:*

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*Brighton Historical Society  
Frankston Historical Society  
Geelong Historical Society  
Heytesbury Historical Society  
North-Eastern Historical Society,  
Wangaratta  
St. Kilda Historical Society  
South-Eastern Historical  
Association*

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## *La Trobe Centenary Commemoration Committee*

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*Sir John Holland (Chairman)  
Mr. L. J. Blake, O.B.E.  
Mr. P. Brown  
Miss C. Burman  
Mr. R. Crawford  
Capt. C. R. Curwen  
Mr. R. Davidson, O.B.E.  
Mr. K. Hall  
Mr. L. G. Houston  
Mrs. L. Kelly  
Mr. J. Kendall  
Lt-Col. H. C. Lee-Archer (R.L.)  
Mrs. L. Moorhead, O.B.E.  
Mr. D. O'Halloran  
Miss P. Reynolds*