

HEROES & VILLAINS

STRUTT'S AUSTRALIA

Young Explorer's Trail



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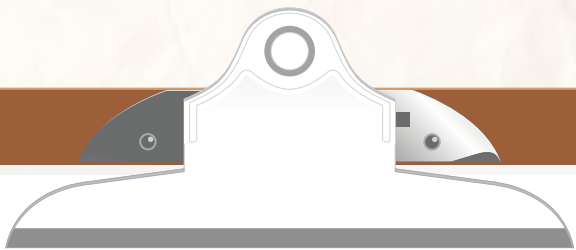
RECORDING HISTORY


In the 1850s, photography had only just been invented. Photographs were not widely available as a means to record events or famous people and we rely on painters to help us imagine what life was like.



William Strutt (1825–1915) was an English-born painter who immigrated to Australia when he was 25 years old. Having studied art in Paris, he arrived in Melbourne at the beginning of an extraordinary decade, when many important historical events occurred. Strutt's paintings are a valuable resource to tell us about life in the colony of Melbourne, not long after it began.

William Strutt (1825–1915)
William Strutt, Mangarie Taranaki, New Zealand, 1856
drawing, pencil and wash
nla.gov.au/nla.pic-an3240357



 Imagine no photographs exist of Canberra. How would you describe Canberra to someone who had never been here, without using photographs?

HAZARDS OF THE BUSH

Strutt's paintings depict the hardships and hazards of living in Australia, as well as the fear and amazement that the natural world generated in the colony and abroad.

Only six months after Strutt arrived, the biggest bushfire experienced by settlers in Victoria occurred. Can you find Strutt's famous *Black Thursday* painting in the exhibition? It took him 3 years to paint, and he kept it for 20 years before he was able to sell it.



✦ Look at the eyes of the animals and the people in the painting. What do you think they are feeling?



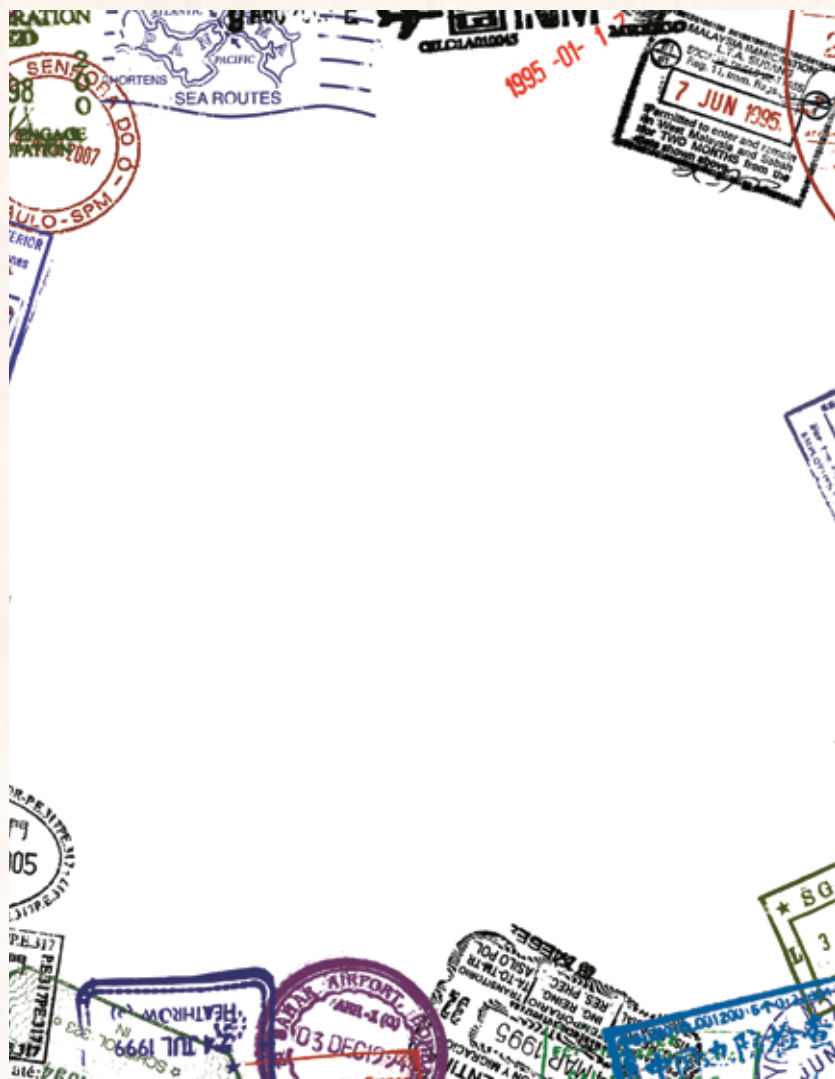
✦ Half of the painting is devoted to the sky. Why do you think Strutt did this?



✦ What sounds can you hear when you look at the painting? What is it in the painting that makes you feel like you can hear sound?

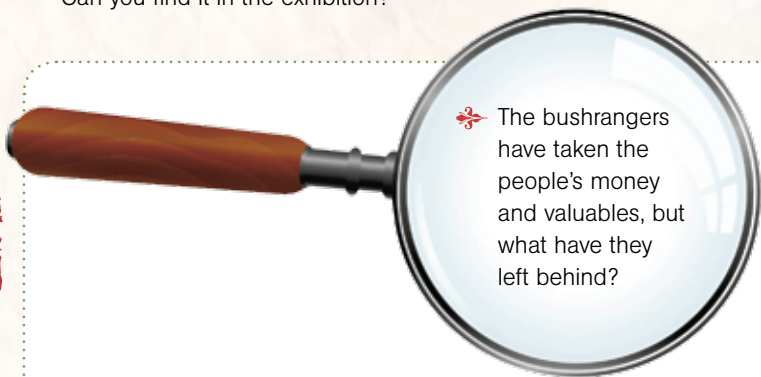
✦ How many different kinds of animals and birds can you find?

- ❖ What might people coming to Australia find confronting or strange about the Australian environment?

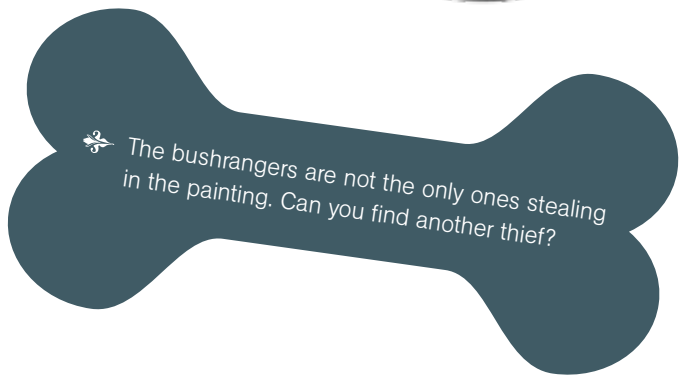


BUSHRANGERS!

Strutt witnessed the gold rush of the 1850s, when many people came from all around the world to try their luck on the goldfields near Ballarat. Gold also meant bushrangers! In October 1851, four mounted and armed bushrangers robbed and held hostage 17 people in Melbourne. This event inspired Strutt to paint what some believe to be his best painting—35 years after the event. Can you find it in the exhibition?



✿ The bushrangers have taken the people's money and valuables, but what have they left behind?



✿ The bushrangers are not the only ones stealing in the painting. Can you find another thief?

✿ Do you know of any famous bushrangers?

What's Your Bushranger Name?

When bushrangers became notorious, people gave them names that made them sound scary, such as Mad Dan Morgan, Captain Moonlite and Moondyne Joe. What would your bushranger name be? Use the puzzle below to find out. Add two names to your real first name.

Use your first initial to find your bushranger's scary name:

A: Angry	B: Bad	C: Cheeky	D: Dastardly	E: Lethal
F: Furious	G: Daring	H: Deadly	I: Lightning	J: The Jackal
K: Crafty	L: Lethal	M: Mad Dog	N: Notorious	O: Outrageous
P: Ruthless	Q: Cunning	R: Tricky	S: Sneaky	T: Terrible
U: Terrible	V: Devious	W: Wicked	X: Sassy	Y: Sly Dog
Z: Nasty				

Use your last initial to find your bushranger's new surname:

A: Governor	B: Bugg	C: Cash	D: Daley	E: Musquito
F: Donahue	G: Gilbert	H: Hall	I: Hickman	J: Thunderbolt
K: Kelly	L: McCallum	M: McPherson	N: Cockerill	O: Jeffries
P: Morgan	Q: Kelly	R: Byrne	S: Brady	T: Thunderbolt
U: Gardiner	V: Jeffries	W: Westwood	X: Gilbert	Y: Daley
Z: Jackey				

Did You Know?

These surnames are the names of some real bushrangers. When you get home, research the bushranger with whom you share a name. Did you know that Mary Ann Bugg, Mary Cockerill and Lizzie Hickman were female bushrangers?

EXPLORING THE UNKNOWN

The gold rush funded a very important journey in 1860—Burke and Wills' Victorian Exploring Expedition. The members of this group became the first non-Indigenous Australians to explore the interior of Australia. Nineteen men took horses, camels and wagons, and travelled from Melbourne in the south to the Gulf of Carpentaria in the north.

Sadly, 18 of the 19 men died, including the leader of the expedition, Robert O'Hara Burke. Strutt painted the scene of Burke's burial at Cooper's Creek, where he died.

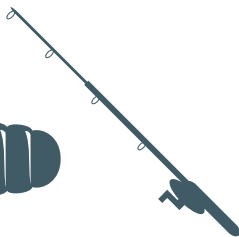
❁ Can you find this flag in a painting in the exhibition?



Time for an adventure!

❁ Imagine that you are going on an expedition to an uncharted country you know nothing about. You will need to take some supplies with you, but you can only take what you can carry as this journey is going to be on foot! Choose five things only from the items on the next page to help you survive. You will already be wearing good camping clothes, like a hat, a warm jumper and strong boots. Number them in order of importance.

William Strutt (1825–1915)
Portrait of Robert O'Hara Burke (detail) c.1860
watercolour
nla.gov.au/nla.pic-an3874535



A PASSION FOR ANIMALS

Strutt was very talented at painting animals, such as kangaroos, horses and camels. Since their arrival in Australia, many European artists had tried to paint or draw an accurate picture of a kangaroo, but they hadn't succeeded in making them look true to life.

- ✿ Strutt's paintings of kangaroos are some of the better ones from the 19th century. Can you find them in the gallery?
- ✿ Here are three paintings of kangaroos done by other artists. Can you list the reasons why each kangaroo looks funny?




Richard Browne (1776–1824)
The Kangaroo (detail) 1820
watercolour
nla.gov.au/nla.pic-an3291296



Peter Mazell
The Kangaroo (detail)
London: J. Stockdale,
15 June 1789
engraving
nla.gov.au/nla.pic-an9939754



V. Woodthorpe
(active 1794–c. 1802)
Kangaroo (detail)
London: published by M. Jones,
13 December 1802
engraving
nla.gov.au/nla.pic-an7890414



Can you draw your own kangaroo?



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