

STATUES IN AND AROUND THE BALLARAT BOTANIC GARDENS

TALKING NOTES FOR "FRIENDS OF THE BALLARAT BOTANIC GARDENS"

J A Chisholm 1983

On Queen Victoria's Birthday, 24 May 1884, the first 12 statues, the gift of Mr Thomas Stoddart, were unveiled in the Botanic Gardens.

It is interesting to reflect that the Ballarat Fine Art Gallery was founded at the same period and therefore was influenced by this gesture to omit from its design, a special area for statues.

Those initial 12 statues, 'scattered' throughout the gardens proper, were all executed by Italian Sculptors. Subsequently, some of the finest pieces have been done by Australians either in Australia, or overseas. Some of the best examples would be those in the Statuary Pavilion executed by Charles Francis Summers. Nearby, 'Wallace' was done by Percival Ball.

The 12 statues donated by Mr Stoddart, were selected by him whilst on a trip through Italy. Carved from CARRARA Marble - it is interesting to know that the quarries are still in operation. Carrara, city of 70,000 persons, is on the coast of Italy, approximately west from Florence and 50 km from Pisa. Quarried for nearly 2,000 years, there are still nearly 275 quarries, exporting 50% of the marble to the Arab countries for use in buildings. The city still fosters art, with its annual sculpture contest held in the city square where young artists have 14 days in which to shape their entry.

These 12 statues were the beginning of Ballarat being known as the City of Statues.

The unveiling was done with due ceremony' following a procession of boats from View Point at 2.00 p.m. The steamer carrying the Councillors and guests was accompanied by yachts, rowing eights and row boats on the trip to the gardens jetty, from where the party moved to the official dais. All statues were covered, with draperies and as Mercury was officially unveiled, a signal gun was fired, and, as the paper of the day reported, "the draperies shrouding the other statues from public gaze were simultaneously taken from each of the other figures and the militia band played the National Anthem and three ringing cheers were given for the Queen." (her birthday) Mr Stoddart was present on the stand with the Mayor.

In addition to the 12 statues of Carrara Marble, Mr Stoddart also presented to the City, the pedestals of Sicillian Marble which have for their base Victorian Granite.

STODDART STATUES:

- SPRING (by BERTOZZI) is depicted as a maiden crowned with a wreath of flowers and carrying a basket of blossoms.
- SUMMER (by BERTOZZI) is depicted as a woman bearing a sheaf of corn, with a scythe in her hand depicting that it is the harvest season.
- AUTUMN (by BERTOZZI) a manly young fellow holding a bunch of grapes, emblematic of the season, clad in a robe red with the juice of the vintage; the dog at his feet denotes that it is also the season of the chase. This statue was damaged in transit and repaired on arrival.
- WINTER (by BERTOZZI) as the oldest season is depicted as an old man drawing in his cloak to keep out the cold.
- HERCULES (by BERTOZZI) the acme of personal strength, a heathen deity, his club was presented to him by mighty Vulcan, the Roman Fire God.
- MERCURY (by BERTOZZI) in mythology was the messenger of the Gods, the wings indicating speed. He was the Patron of travellers, of thieves, pickpockets and dishonest persons. He also presided over orators and merchants.
- BACCHANTE (by GIOVANNI UDNY) a mythological Priestess to Bacchus, usually carried in her hands a dart entwined in ivy leaves. The Priestesses were reputed to be wild women who went into the hills, clothed themselves in animal skins, tore animals apart with their teeth and indulged in orgies.
- FLORA FARNESE (by GIOVANNI UDNY), sometimes known as the Flora of the Farnese. The Farnese being a noble Italian family, part of their art collection including a Flora, the roman Goddess of Spring. I presume that this statue is after the one from that collection.
- FLORA (by G MARCHETTI), as a symbol of beauty in nature, is portrayed as a maiden in the act of watering the flowers at her feet.
- LEDA (by B RAGGI), wife of TYNDARUS, King of Sparta, whom Jupiter wooed in the form of a swan. His wife was JUNO, whose daughter was HEBE.
- HEBE (by B RAGGI), being fair and beautiful, was made the Goddess of Youth, and cup bearer to all the Gods. On day she was unlucky enough to spill JOVE's cup and lost her position. Ultimately she married HERCULES.
- POMONA (by B RAGGI), the old Roman Goddess of tree fruits.

When the statues were presented, the donor added some instructions for periodically cleaning them with rain water, soda and a soft brush. This was carried out for a long time, but later forgotten. As a result, Winter out in the open looks quite clean, especially after the rain, whilst some of the others, look as though they have a case of small pox.

STATUARY PAVILION:

The Statuary in the Pavilion was unveiled on 3 August 1888, by the Premier of Victoria, the Honourable Duncan Gillies, who years before had been a fellow miner working shoulder to shoulder with the donor, James Russell Thomson. This friendship had been recorded especially when they were in the mine on the present site of the Base Hospital. Thomson blamed the dampness of this mine as the cause of his deafness.

The centre piece "Flight from Pompeii" is almost as well known as Ballarat itself. This statue represents the flight of a family - father, mother and child from the ill-fated city of Pompeii (Italy) about to be covered in ash and lava from Mt Vesuvius which erupted in 79AD, completely burying the city and all the inhabitants who failed to escape. Day turned into night as the sky was obscured by a dense pall of ash and cinders. Visitors to Pompeii today will have seen the excavations commenced in the mid 18th Century.

The four marble relief panels at the base of the main statue depicting various scenes of the flight were by the Australian, C F Summers. The panels depict confusion and flight.

1. The Roman Sentinel who remained at his post.
2. The blind girl NYDIA, unaffected by the dark, leading her friends to safety.
3. A priest, seeking to escape with his treasure and his slaves, is overwhelmed by the falling buildings.
4. The general confusion, aggravated by the earthquake which occurred during the eruption.

The design for "Flight from Pompeii" was by BENZONI, but contrary to popular belief, the statue was not sculptured by him. On a visit to Ballarat in 1900, the sculptor Charles Francis Summers (born in Victoria), disclosed that the original, standing only 4 feet 6 inches (approximately 1½ metres), was in his studio in Rome. Summers said in an interview, that shortly before his death, Benzoni decided to reproduce the group in heroic proportions. Work had already commenced to 'rough out' the larger statue when Benzoni died. Mr Summers went on with the work which he said was his, although the design is by Benzoni.

Mr Summers claimed that the "Flight from Pompeii" was to have been bought for the Sydney Art Gallery, but the negotiations were protracted and the Trustees for the Thomson Bequest stepped in and procured it for Ballarat. This is quite possibly correct because Summers had been in Australia and had secured commissions for the Sydney Botanical Gardens which number eight copies from the antiques.

A group of gentlemen, appointed to administer the Bequest, were one day examining some photographs when they came upon the "Flight from Pompeii" by an Italian artist of high repute who had just died. The party exclaimed, "this would be the very thing". It so happened that at this time, Mr James Service (of Ballarat), was in England and he was asked to get the best opinion on Benzoni's work, which was then being exhibited in the studio of Mr Charles Summers, in Rome. Satisfactory opinions were received by 19 June 1887.

The four lovely individual statues in the Pavilion were also sculptured by Charles F Summers.

SUSSANAH from the Apocrypha, with two reliefs, one showing Susannah being surprised at the bath; the other showing the pleasure of her friends at the demonstration of her innocence. (Her accusers were later condemned instead).

RUTH in a sitting posture. The two bas reliefs show the Old Testament story of Ruth and Naomi. One showing the return of the two widowed women to the country of Naomi, the other, gleaning in the field of Boaz.

REBECCA depicted shading her eyes to see Joseph in the distance, as she approached her future home.

MODESTY that lovely veiled figure, so expressive.

SIR WILLIAM WALLACE:

The money for this statue was provided from the balance of the bequest by James Russell Thomson, and was unveiled on the date of his birthday, 24 May 1889, which coincided with the birthday of Queen Victoria.

Wallace was chosen for the statue as being the hero of Mr Thomson's own country, Scotland.

Executed by the Melbourne sculptor Percival Ball, Wallace is shown as standing upon the Abbey Craig at Stirling in 1297, watching for the precise moment when a blast from the horn hanging at his side will give the signal for his forces to fall upon the English as they cross Stirling Bridge. At the time of its unveiling, the statue was claimed to be the biggest that had been made south of the equator, which was a mild rebuke at Australians working overseas.

THE GATES AND THE MARBLE LIONS:

The two marble lions were presented to the City on 17 August 1894, by Hon David Ham MLC, a long time resident of Ballarat who had been a miner on the goldfields in 1851 and had been prominent in Parliament and in the Church affairs of the City.

The two iron gates were handed over on the same day by Hon Edward Morey MLC, as a token of appreciation to the people of Ballarat for what they had done for him. He was both a Parliamentarian and a member of the City Council. The donor stated that he was pleased that a local man had designed the gates and that another local man had made them.

The emblem on the gates is a copy of the former Seal of the City of Ballarat.

At the time, there was local disagreement on whether the Lions should have been on the outside guarding the gates, or as they were erected.

The Lions were given as an emblem of the strength of the British nation, and were informally unveiled on 15 December 1893, (the gates not being ready at that date), at a Garden Party given by the Mayor, T H Thompson, (no relation to James Russell Thomson).

The guests were received near the Lions after which an adjournment was made to the nearby Pavilion where a sumptuous banquet had been prepared. Each of the ladies were presented with a beautiful bouquet, (probably from the Gardens). The Mayor distributed lollies and fruits, etc, amongst the children playing in the Gardens.

REFLECTION BOWL - presented 22 October 1938

A chromium plated mirror bowl about 38 cm in diameter, mounted on a granite base in a reflecting pool of water, was presented to the City by Brother B A Falloon, Worshipful Grand Master, at the Biennial Conference of the Grand Council of Victoria, Protestant Alliance Friendly Society of Australasia.

The gesture was made to commemorate the 70th Anniversary of the founding of the Society in Ballarat.

Seventy years previously, a group of men watching a St Patrick's Day Procession in the streets of Ballarat decided, on the spot, to form an organization of their own. The outcome of this decision was the Protestant Alliance Friendly Society, which in 1938 had funds totalling \$2 million. The Society thought it fitting to give this memorial to the City to commemorate the event.

Damage by vandals over the years, is one of the reasons why there is, at present, no bowl on the pedestal.

PRIME MINISTER'S AVENUE - unveiled Saturday 2 March 1940

Unveiled by the Governor, Sir Winston Duggan, who also named the Avenue. The money for the first twelve busts was provided by Colonel R A Crouch, a Federal politician, a soldier, and a Patron of the Arts who never forgot his birthplace.

The first six busts unveiled on that day were -

Sir Edmund Barton, the first Prime Minister;
Alfred Deakin, first Federal Member for Ballarat and Prime Minister;
J W Watson, first Labor Prime Minister;
Sir George Reid;
Andrew Fisher;
and Sir Joseph Cook.

The next six busts were to be provided by the donor, after which he hoped that the Commonwealth Governments would provide for the future as each Prime Minister ceased office. This was not to be, and subsequent busts have been provided by the City Council. Various sculptors have been involved with the project.

FLORAL CLOCK - presented 6 March 1954

Presented to the Citizens of the City of Ballarat by the Ballarat Begonia Festival Committee. The Chairman, Mr E J Bartrop, invited the Mayoress, Mrs F J Cutts, to officially start the clock, which at that time was situated in the middle of the third block in Sturt Street. In recent years it was shifted to its present location on the east side of the Gardens where it has been raised to make a much finer floral display.

CLAXTON MEMORIAL

Erected in 1890 by public subscription to acknowledge Mr Claxton's unremitting advocacy for the development of the lake and the gardens, from the original swamp and Police Paddock.

Frederick Moses Claxton gave a great deal to this city, as a citizen, a Councillor, and as Mayor.

SUNDIAL

This interesting Sundial, just to the east of the Statuary Pavilion, was presented to the City by Cr T T Hollway, following his year as Mayor 1910-1911.

The dial was prepared by Cr Hollway, the principal in a metal working business, under the personal direction of Mr P Saracchi, Government Astronomer.

BEGONIA HOUSE - opened 4 March 1960

Replacing an older glass house, this new building is the focal point of each Begonia Festival. Made possible by a bequest from John Headen Cuthbert, and a generous gift from his widow, Mabel Cuthbert, which permitted the City Council, with the assistance of the State Tourist Development Authority to proceed with a structure which increased the number of plants required from 800 to 2,000.

It was opened by the Mayor, Cr F W Oliver.

MCDONALD BEQUEST - Erected in 1921

The bequest of the Hon J Y McDonald MLA, provided \$2,500 to build the Arbor and Pergola at the south entrance to the Botanic Gardens and \$540 balance to build the Bandstand on the lakeside. In those days these amounts would have been considered considerable.

ADAM LINDSAY GORDON COTTAGE - Officially opened 15 August 1934

The cottage was occupied between 1867 and 1868 by the poet, Adam Lindsay Gordon, who used it to conduct Livery Stables from the rear of Craigs Hotel. A plaque to mark the event was unveiled at Craigs Hotel on the same day by the Governor Lord Huntingfield.

The Governor had been invited by the Ballarat Historical Society. At the opening, Mr F J Martell said that a student of his, 60 years ago, Mr R A Crouch had volunteered to defray the cost of removing and renovating the cottage at the gardens, as well as offering to supply another building to Craigs for replacement.

MARTELL TABLET - Unveiled at the Cottage - 23 October 1938

The tablet was to honour the late F J Martell whose zeal and industry resulted in the shifting of the cottage and the gathering of articles. After his death, his ashes had been scattered around the cottage.

ADAM LINDSAY GORDON BUST - Unveiled 26 October 1941

Presented by Mr J K Moir of Melbourne, unveiled by Mr C R Long, President of the Melbourne Gordon Committee. The bronze bust was executed by Mr Wallace Anderson of Canberra, a native of Dean.

WILLIAM ERNEST ROFF - Unveiled 15 August 1976

The memorial plaque by Stanley Hammond - mounted on a large rock - was unveiled by the then Mayor and President of the Adam Lindsay Gordon Cottage Committee, Cr M J Brown, to acknowledge the many years of service as President of the Society by William E Roff, CBE, JP.

LAKESIDE OF THE GARDENS

KING EDWARD MEMORIAL PAVILION - 22 December 1911

Situated in a popular picnic area in the south gardens, this shelter pavilion was erected by public subscription and handed over to the City on Friday 22 December by Cr T T Hollway, Chairman of the Appeal Committee. It was erected to commemorate the life and reign of King Edward VII (known as the Peace Maker), who had died on 6 May 1910.

The subscription raised approximately \$670 - the Council met the balance.

Advantage was taken of the occasion for Mayor Barker to present to Cr Hollway and his wife an ornate silver bowl and side pieces, a gift from his Council colleagues and Officers, in recognition of his successful term as Mayor.

CANNONS One gun dated 1847, three dated 1843

These cannon were 32 pounder guns which formed part of the 120 gun complement of the HMVS "Nelson", a three deck battleship of the Victorian Navy, (before Federation) which was used by the Senior Naval Officer.

The keel of the "Nelson" was laid down in 1798, launched in 1814, arrived at Hobsons Bay 1869, out of Commission 1898.

BANDSTAND

Built approximately 1921 from balance of the McDonald Bequest used to build the Arbor and Pergola at the Gardens.

ALMEIDA

The small roofed structure near the refreshment Kiosk was known for many years as the Almeida, from the name of the Lessee. It was used to house the old-time penny in the slot machines. The Town Hall stairway carries a plaque to recognize the heroism of his son, Mr W C F Almeida, a native of Ballarat, who, on 28 November 1924 lost his life whilst heroically protecting the property of the bank in which he was employed at Hampton.

BIOGRAPHIESFREDERICK MOSES CLAXTON

1832

Born in Norfolk, England - September 1852. Died Ballarat - 13 March 1888, of English cholera, at his residence at 41 Webster Street. Arrived Australia early 1853, first settled in Geelong. Married Miss D'Alton at Geelong 1854 when aged 22. Approximately 1856 moved to Linton, thence to Ballarat where he became a bookkeeper to McNaught and Boyd, wholesale storekeepers and wine and spirit merchants; then traveller in the firm, and finally manager.

Claxton and his brother-in-law bought out the business and in 1862 they ran the wine and spirit store at the south west corner of Mair and Armstrong Streets. Claxton next commenced business on his own account as an auctioneer. It was in this position that he was better known. George Crouch bought the block of land at Point Lonsdale from Claxton, and later built on it the first house at the Point.

1864 first joined Ballarat City Council - Mayor three times.
 Member Water Commission, Hospital, Benevolent Home, Orphanage Committee.
 Masonic Lodge.
 Trustee Christ Church, Anglican Cathedral Board.
 20 years Chairman of Directors Magdala Mine, Stawell.
 Identified with a number of District mines.
 Legal Manager, Hepburn Estate, in which he was a shareholder.
 Investor.
 Foundation Member of the City Fire Brigade.
 Left a widow, 3 sons, 3 daughters, an aged mother.

THOMAS TUKE HOLLWAY

Born Ballarat 1865 - Died Ballarat 15 May 1931 - aged 75.
 Lived "Glen Maye", Lydiard Street North. Head of the hardware firm in Armstrong Street started by his father, John Hollway, a Pioneer of the early 1850's.

Educated at Ballarat College, elected to the City Council 1905, and retired in 1921 when Amalgamation between East and West was effected. Twice Mayor. Treasurer and President of the Orphanage. President of the Ballarat North Recreation Club. President of the Ballarat Rowing Club. President of the Wendouree Rowing Club and was Umpire at Regattas. Interested in education and was a member of many organizations, such as, Macarthur Street Old School Committee, Ballarat North Progress Association, Mechanics Institute, City ANA, Liedertafel, Art Gallery, Exhibition Commissioners, Old Colonists Association and Club. Justice of the Peace. Left a widow and grown up family. Wife Amelia, sons John, Wallace, Thomas, David. He was not the Politician.

ADAM LINDSAY GORDON

Born 19 October 1833 in the Azores. Arrived Australia 1853 and joined the South Australian Mounted Police in the same year at Mt Gambier. 1855 resigned from the Police. 1862 married Margaret Park. 1865 joined South Australian Parliament - resigned following year. 1867 daughter born - died 1868 at Ballarat. 1867 Livery Stables at Ballarat until following year. 1870 took his own life at Brighton.

BIOGRAPHIESJOHN YOUNG McDONALD

Born Leith, Scotland 1837. Died Ballarat 7 September 1917. Unmarried. Arrived Melbourne approximately 1855, took up his business as a plumber at Ballarat for 30 years. After retirement became a sharebroker and director of mining companies mainly at Creswick. Chairman of Ballarat Gas Company. President, Caledonian Society. Council member School of Mines. 18 year MLC Wellington Province, Minister without office in Bent Government. Residue of his estate to be divided equally between Ballarat College, St Andrews Kirk, Ballarat Hospital, Ballarat City Council (gardens).

WILLIAM ERNEST ROFF

Born in Ballarat East - Died in the city he loved and lived for, on 22 September 1970 - aged 79 years.

A plumber by trade, he was a partner in the firm of Fargher and Roff. Served in the First World War. Served on the City Council for 24 years - Mayor on two occasions. Government Nominee of Ballarat Water Commissioners. Footballer, Cricketer, Fireman. President of many community organizations in Ballarat, including - Ballarat Youth Centre, Ballarat Historical Society, Astronomical Society, R.S.P.C.A., Soldiers Memorial Band, and various School Councils. President of the Gordon Cottage Committee which is the reason for having his memorial near the cottage.

Awarded the CBE for his warm heart and extensive community service.

CHARLES FRANCIS SUMMERS

Born Richmond, Victoria 1858. Died 1945. His father, Charles Summers, also a trained sculptor, arrived in Australia from England in 1853 and went to the goldfields for a short period. One of his major works in Melbourne is the Burke and Wills Monument in the City Square. Summers returned to Europe in 1867 and settled in Rome.

The son, Charles Francis Summers went to Rome in 1870 and trained under his father. He returned to Australia 1884 - 1885 selling sculptures and gaining commissions for the Sydney Botanical Gardens. It is possible that he made his Ballarat contact at that time. Summers returned to Australia on his third visit from 1900-1918 and visited Ballarat in 1900, when he talked about the sculpturing of the "Flight from Pompeii".

PERCIVAL BALL

Born England 1844. Arrived Melbourne 1886. Died 1900. Exhibited in England. Ball was a foundation member of the Australian Artists Association, and during his time in Australia was an active artist.

BIOGRAPHIESTHOMAS STODDART

Born 1828 at Roxburgh, Scotland, he attended school at Hawick and at the age of 16 was apprenticed to a joiner. Four years later he joined the army and worked at his trade, stationed at Woolwich. In 1853 he left for Australia where he took employment as a joiner before coming to Ballarat about a year later. In Ballarat and district Thomas Stoddart was successful as a miner, until 1861 when he turned from mining to speculation and subsequently to sharebroking. It was said that Thomas Stoddart floated as many mining companies as any other man. He became a Director of many of them.

By the 1880's he had become a wealthy man, admitting into partnership Mr D Binnie, but following the latter's death, the management devolved onto Mr T M Antcliffe. In 1882 Thomas Stoddart returned to Scotland on a visit taking the opportunity to tour Europe. Whilst in Italy he visited a sculptors studio where he was impressed by work being executed for the city of Genoa. He thereupon purchased the twelve statues now in our gardens. As an executor of the estate of Mr J Russell Thomson, he helped select statuary now housed in the Statuary Pavilion.

Elected Chairman of the Burns Statue Fund, Thomas Stoddart generously contributed to the fund as well as to the funds for Tom Moore and William Shakespeare.

After 1884 he sustained heavy losses through investments in the Westport Coal company, the City Bank and Queensland Copper ventures, but nonetheless he supported the city he loved, through the statuary, churches and sport.

In appreciation the Council of the City of Ballarat placed a tablet to this effect next to a bust of Mr Stoddart, in a prominent position at the top of the stairway in the Town Hall.

Thomas Stoddart, a bachelor, a worthy citizen and inspirer of the statuary movement, died at his home, 321 Sturt Street on Monday 20 February 1905, in his 77th year.

JAMES RUSSELL THOMSON

Born 24 May 1818 at Airdrie, Ayreshire, Scotland, enlisting in the 92nd Gordon Highlanders in 1837, serving for about eight years in various parts of the world before he returned to Scotland where he purchased his discharge whilst in Edinburgh. Went to Glasgow and became a clerk in the Post Office until 1852.

Sailed in the ship "Aberfoyle" for Melbourne on 10 September 1852, arriving Christmas 1852, and at once started for the Ovens Diggings; found gold, and came to Ballarat in February 1853. One of his fellow passengers from the "Aberfoyle" was a man who worked the mines with him, particularly on the Republic Mine (on the site of the present day Base Hospital) and who was to become Premier of Victoria, Duncan Gillies.

NB: The Republic Mine was so wet that Thomson subsequently lost his hearing.

BIOGRAPHIES

James Russell Thomson was described as a man for hard work, often working shifts of 24 hours consecutively to keep back the drift in the mine; as a sagacious counsellor, a trusty friend, a man of much reading and liberal gifts, he always had a troop of friends. But because of his deafness, he did not take part in later life in public affairs. In his early days in Ballarat, Thomson took an active part on the side of the miners in all the movements that preceded and followed the Eureka affair. He was a Juror on the inquest into the death of James Scobie and following this he was the first to sign a public letter expressing great dissatisfaction on the conduct of the inquest. Peter Lalor was another person to sign.

On Tuesday 17 October 1854 a large crowd of some thousands assembled in the vicinity of Bently's Eureka Hotel. Thomson took part in the running of the meeting, called to discuss the facts of the Scobie case; a matter causing great feeling amongst the diggers. He seconded the motion that the facts be forwarded to the Lieutenant Governor, subsequently he was appointed one of the committee of seven to carry out the views of the meeting.

A vote of thanks to the chair, the business terminated, but not so with the multitude of miners, who, irritated by the large display of Police force, eventually got out of hand and burnt down Bently's Hotel.

Despite large financial losses in later life, after making substantial bequests to relatives, the residue of his estate went to purchase the wonderful collection of statuary in the Statuary Pavilion, together with the statue of Sir William Wallace, all at the Gardens.

James Russell Thomson, a bachelor, a very popular man, died at his home, 93 Doveton Street North, 26 May 1886 - aged 68.

RICHARD ARMSTRONG CROUCH

Born 19 June 1868 at Ballarat, the son of an early pioneer. Educated at Mt Pleasant State School and thence to Melbourne University. Practised as a Solicitor, he served in the Boer War and was a Colonel in the Middle East during the 1914-1918 War.

A Federal politician, a soldier, an historian, a collector, a patron of the Arts, Col. Crouch was a man's man who never forgot the place of his birth. Best remembered in Ballarat for the bequest to the Ballarat Fine Art Gallery where the George Crouch Prize is given for oils and sculpture and the Minnie Crouch Prize is given for water colours, named after his father and sister respectively.

In the Botanic Gardens, a unique avenue of statues depicting the Prime Ministers of Australia, is the direct result of a gift given by R A Crouch to the City in 1940.

Richard Armstrong Crouch, a bachelor, a great Australia, died at Point Lonsdale, April 1949, aged 80 years.