

FOREWORD

As our second issue for 1999, a year which has seen the coming to Australia of the extraordinarily rich Pierre-Jean Chalencón Collection - 'Treasures of the Emperor and Imperial France' and the presentation in Sydney and Canberra of the 'Terre Napoléon - Australia through French Eyes, 1800-1804' exhibition, we offer a series of articles, reports, two book reviews and a listing, all treating in various ways the theme of Napoleon and Australia. Although the subject may seem a sparse one, given that Napoleon was never able seriously to consider extending his imperial sway over this continent, cartographically there was some apparent foreshadowing on his behalf, while his sway over imaginations and historical pursuits continues very strongly.

One indication of such continuing interest is the existence of an Australian Napoleonic Society, and we are grateful to Daniel Duldig for enabling us to publish the text of his talk given to our Annual General Meeting on 15 November 1999. Another more long-standing indication, fortuitous in its origins, is the presence in Australia of the Mabel Brookes Napoleonic Collection, certainly one of the most important outside France itself. We are most grateful to the National Trust of Australia (Victoria) for providing us with a catalogue and further information regarding this collection.

Finally, Australia is rich in bibliographical materials about Napoleon, as illustrated in Edward Duyker's article inspired by the holdings at the National Library of Australia and in the list of holdings kindly provided by the information staff of the State Library of Victoria.

The editors will be grateful for any comment on the content of this issue. For any short comment or minor correction you are welcome to ring one of Pat Clancy on (03) 9889 2414, Jacques de Saint-Ferjeux on (03) 9509 5895 or Colin Thornton-Smith on (03) 9857 9938, but we would prefer to have any substantial suggestions in writing, either by mail to ISFAR (address inside front cover) by fax to J. St-F.: (03) 9509 7457, or P. A. C.: (03) 9889 2414 or by E-mail to one of:

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