Robert Gordon Menzies
A man and his books

Friends’ lecture
Leigh Scott Room, Baillieu Library
The University of Melbourne
Tuesday 14 October 2014
Doors open at 5:45pm & formalities commence at 6.00pm sharp.

ROBERT GORDON MENZIES (1894–1978) is best remembered as the founder of the Liberal Party and Australia’s longest-serving prime minister, a role he occupied in two terms from 1939 to 1941 and 1949 to 1966. Menzies was also an alumnus of the University of Melbourne and, from 1967 to 1972, its chancellor. Menzies was also an avid book collector.

What do Menzies’ books reveal about their owner? In this talk, Caitlin Stone and Jim Berryman will talk about Menzies’ personal library, which was donated to the University of Melbourne in 1979. The collection, comprising over 4000 items, spans a lifetime of book collecting, with books ranging from Menzies’ childhood to his final years. The library provides a unique insight into Menzies’ tastes and interests, as well as his personal and professional networks. Based on our research examining the library and its contents, this talk will focus on some notable books from the collection, especially books of historical and biographical importance.

RSVP by Friday 10 October 2014 to:
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Suggested catering contribution: $5.00