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Faculty of Arts

School of Historical and
Philosophical Studies

History Alumni News

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History Chair's Report



The History discipline had a very busy and productive year. The program taught several new subjects drawing especially on the expertise of our new Hansen appointees. **Professor Mark Edele**, our Hansen Chair, continued to lead the process of curriculum renewal including the development of pathways which students can choose to follow from years 1–3 in the areas of political or social history. Two new first-year subjects will be taught for the first time in 2019 to introduce each pathway. Further new subjects will be rolled out in 2020. We are grateful for the valuable contributions made to our teaching by sessional lecturers in 2018, especially **Dr Gabriela Welch**, **Dr Chip van Dyk**, **Dr Hannah Loney**, **Dr Mia Martin Hobbs** and **Dr Jackie Dickenson**. Our first-year subject “The World Since World War Two”, taught by our recent graduate **Dr Hannah Loney**, received a record enrolment of 320 students in second semester 2018. Another sign of growing student enthusiasm was the new undergraduate **History Society** and the first edition of the undergraduate-run history journal called [Chariot](#).

In September the program welcomed new staff member **Professor Zoë Laidlaw**, a historian of nineteenth-century British imperialism and settler colonialism who moved to our program from Royal Holloway University of London. Throughout the year we also recruited two new staff in the fields of European and Asian history (**Dr Ángel Alcalde** and **Dr Matt Galway**), who joined us in January 2019. **Professor Trevor Burnard** also secured the support for some history co-teaching with the Faculty of Business and Economics from their new appointment in Japanese economic history, **Dr John Tang**.

Many of our staff received recognition for their research and contributions to the discipline in 2018. In June 2018 **Emeritus Professor Peter McPhee** was awarded an honorary doctorate by the University of Perpignan, France. In July 2018 **Professor Joy Damousi** was elected President of the Australian Historical Association. In September 2018 **Professor Andrew May** was elected a fellow in the Australian Academy of Social Sciences. He was among 36 new fellows, all recognised for their outstanding contributions to the social sciences in this country. Later in the year **Associate Professor Sean Scalmer** won the NSW Premier’s 2018 General History Prize for his book *On the Stump: Campaign Oratory and Democracy in the United States, Britain and Australia* (Temple University Press 2017) and **Dr Alessandro Antonello** was awarded a prestigious ARC DECRA for the project “An international environmental history of the ‘World Ocean’, 1950s–2000s”. **Dr Julie Fedor** was promoted to Senior Lecturer and **Associate Professor Ara Keys** was promoted to full Professor. We congratulate them all.

The History Program held many events in 2018 including major lectures, smaller workshops and our weekly Brown Bag program. In April 2018 we co-hosted with the **History**

Council of Victoria the **Kathleen Fitzpatrick Lecture** which was delivered by **Professor David Christian** on the theme of “Big History and Truth”. **Professor Emeritus Gillian Triggs** delivered the 10th **Greg Denning Memorial Lecture** on the topic “Australia’s Protection of Human Rights: Is a Charter of Rights a Solution?” The History Program also hosted a lecture by the 2018 **Ernest Scott Prize** winner, **Professor Michael Belgrave**, who won this award for his book, *Dancing with the King: The Rise and Fall of the King Country, 1864–1885* (Auckland University Press). Thank you to **Catherine Kovesi**, **Julie Fedor** and **Brenda Jackson** for assisting with organising these big events and to Julie and Catherine especially for keeping members of the [Friends of History at Melbourne Facebook page](#) up to date on history news. Julie led a team of staff and postgraduates across the school in developing the impressive [SHAPS Forum Research Blog](#) which will continue to profile research across the School.

Our talented postgraduates continued to research, write up and present their work at our **Work in Progress Day** at the end of the year but also at many national and international conferences. Thank you especially to the **History Postgraduate Association** for creating a community for our postgraduates and organising related events throughout the year. Our **Fellows** and **Associates** also held regular events in 2018 and continued to publish their work and support the program.

Two valued History colleagues left us at the end of 2018. **Professor Antonia Finnane** who has been a tremendous colleague and enthusiastic teacher and sterling researcher is retiring after 33 years in the History Program. She will continue some supervision in her field of Chinese history and hopes also to be involved in the ongoing partnership she set up with Nanjing University. **Dr Kat Ellinghaus**, whose subjects and teaching methods were of great appeal to our students, has accepted a position as Associate Professor in History at La Trobe University, a well-deserved promotion. We wish Kat all the very best in her new job, and hope she will retain strong connections with our History program into the future. Further to this **Professor Trevor Burnard** completed an eight-year term as Head of our School and will take up a teaching and research position in our program. **Brenda Jackson**, a professional staff member, has retired. We thank all these staff for their valuable contributions and wish Antonia and Brenda all the best with their retirements.

There were many major publications this year by our staff, students and fellows. Details of their monographs and edited volumes are provided below. We were also delighted to see a highly successful year of postgraduate completions which are also detailed below.

Kate McGregor
Discipline Chair 2018

Staffing News



Dr Ángel Alcalde was appointed Lecturer in Twentieth-Century European History in 2018. He obtained his PhD in History and Civilization from the European University Institute (Florence, Italy) in 2015. As a Modern Historian, his areas of expertise are international, transnational and global history, the history of fascism, and the social and cultural history of war in the twentieth century, with a focus on war veterans. Before joining the University of Melbourne Dr Alcalde was a Humboldt Postdoctoral Fellow at LMU Munich and a Fellow at the Center for the History of Global Development (Shanghai University). His latest book, *War Veterans and Fascism in Interwar Europe*, was published by Cambridge University Press in 2017. He also has a track-record of publications on the Spanish Civil War and the Franco dictatorship. His current research focuses on globalisation, the Cold War era, and war veterans' international organisations.



Dr Matthew Galway commenced his position as Hansen Trust Lecturer in Asian History in January 2019. A graduate of the University of British Columbia in Vancouver (PhD 2017) and the University of Ottawa/Université d'Ottawa (MA 2010), his research focuses on Maoism and Communist China more broadly, with particular interest in the emergence of Maoist-inspired Communist movements in Southeast Asia and Latin America. His book project, *Red Evangelism: Global Maoism and the Communist Movement in Cambodia, 1949-1979*, takes a genealogical approach to uncovering the processes whereby Maoism came into being, and the conditions and problems of its emergence in Cambodian intellectual circles. He has written chapters on Mao's theory of Permanent Revolution and its impact on the intellectual foundation of Peru's Shining Path movement and on the Chinese Communist spy Yuan Shu (袁殊). In addition, he has published articles in *China Information*, *Asian Ethnicity*, and *Left History*, and presented at several editions of the annual conferences of the Association of Asian Studies (AAS) and the Latin American Studies Association (LASA). Two articles on Cambodian Maoists' ties to Cultural Revolution-era China are forthcoming this year.



Professor Zoë Laidlaw began her teaching career in 2001 after completing her DPhil in History at the University of Oxford, and undergraduate honours degrees in History and Mathematics at the University of Melbourne. Prior to returning to Melbourne as Professorial Fellow in History in September 2018, she taught at Royal Holloway University of London for 13 years, and before that at the University of Sheffield from 2001 to 2005. Zoë's research interests lie in the field of nineteenth-century British imperialism and settler colonialism; she is currently completing a monograph for Cambridge University Press, which contextualises British humanitarian activism on Indigenous rights at the advent of settler self-government. She is a Chief Investigator on the ARC-funded project "Remaking the British World After 1815", and has a collaboration with the British Museum exploring the networks that brought Indigenous Australian artefacts and images into its collections. Her published works include *Colonial Connections, 1815-45: Patronage, the information revolution and colonial government* (2005) and the co-edited collection, *Indigenous Communities and Settler Colonialism: Land-holding, Loss and Survival in an Interconnected World* (2015). She was Honorary Secretary of the Royal Historical Society between 2016 and 2018.



Head of School, Trevor Burnard completes his term.
Photo by Georgia Garvey-Hawke.

December 2018 saw the conclusion of **Professor Trevor Burnard's** second four-year term as Head of School – a period which oversaw much change and innovation in the School and in the Discipline of History, including our move to the new Arts West Building. Trevor will now be welcomed back into the "ranks" of the Discipline of History where he will continue his research on early British America and the Atlantic World. We look forward to welcoming **Professor Margaret Cameron** in mid 2019 as our new Head of School.

Farewelling Professor Antonia Finnane

In 2018 Professor Antonia Finnane retired after 33 years working for the History program at the University of Melbourne. We present here excerpts from the speeches and tributes delivered at Antonia's farewell.



I would like to thank several people for assisting with anecdotes and material for this speech, especially **Catherine Kovesi, Anne McLaren, Stuart Macintyre, Charles Coppel** and **Richard Pennell**. I would also like to thank **Nathan Gardner** for organising tonight's event with me.

I want to begin with a personal thank you to Antonia for always being an inspiration as a supervisor, teacher, mentor, sounding board but mostly as a person. It's been lovely to have you in the corridors and in the program.

Antonia has been with the History program for 33 years and has made strong contributions to our research and teaching over that time, in addition to elevating our international profile.

First, I would like to say something about Antonia's impressive contributions to her fields of research.

Antonia is a graduate of the University of Sydney (first-class honours in history). She studied at the Beijing language institute and then Nanjing University before commencing her study at the Australian National University, with a PhD in Chinese history.

When asked in an interview about ten years ago about when her passion for China began she said:

"It's hard to say, but the Cold War and the Vietnam War were probably factors. When I started university in 1971, I might have studied Vietnamese had it been available; as it was I enrolled in Elementary Chinese. But I did have a long-standing interest in China from reading children's fiction, most memorably Ho Ming, Girl of New China, which I later found out won the children's book of the year in the US in 1937; also House of Sixty Fathers, Plum Blossom and Kai Lin—all borrowed from the local library. My parents had a copy of Ling Shu-hua's Ancient Melodies, which I also read when I was young. All this childhood reading must have made an impression on me, because I have been interested in China and Chinese for as long as I can remember. I wasn't a very good language student,

but Chinese is very addictive and having started on the China road in my first year of university, I never really looked back though I have sometimes thought that life is not long enough to study Chinese if you want to do anything else, such as have a life."

As Antonia began her doctorate in the early 1970s China and the US were just establishing better relations, so it must have been an exciting period of opening up. Archive work was very difficult due to restrictions and even getting access to some areas was challenging. In addition Antonia was working in a new field for Chinese history of urban history at the time.

Now, many years later, Antonia's scholarship is internationally acclaimed for the meticulous research it employs using Chinese sources and offering fresh interpretations of significant issues of Chinese economic, social and cultural history.

In 2007, Antonia won a major award: the Joseph Levenson Book Award awarded by the US Association for Asian Studies, for the best book on a pre-1900 topic on China. *Speaking of Yangzhou*, published by the Harvard Asia Center was hailed as "remarkably rich and comprehensive". It presents a history of the development and decline of the city of Yangzhou, a city famed for its strong merchant culture based around trade in salt. In this work she challenged a number of received opinions, particularly with regard to the social status of the merchants, and presents a compelling argument to account for the economic decline of the city in the 19th century. Not just an urban history, the work deals with significant economic, social and cultural issues in imperial China. She won the University's Woodward Medal for the same book.

Another outstanding book, *Changing Clothes in China: Fashion, History, Nation* (Columbia University Press, 2008) is regarded as a "definitive study" of the history of fashion in China from the late imperial to the contemporary period. Richly illustrated, it has been described as "beautifully produced". In this work Antonia overturns earlier assumptions that China's fashion in clothes was unchanging and demonstrates the historicity of fashion both in the imperial and the modern era. Chinese fashion is a research topic pioneered by Antonia that has been warmly welcomed by the field of Chinese studies. This book is more than just a fashion history—it is required reading for understanding the transformation of the roles of Chinese women, particularly at the difficult transition from imperial times to the modern age.

Over the course of her career Antonia has held several major grants from the ARC to support her research. The most recent project focuses on "The Fate of the Artisan in Revolutionary China: Tailors in Beijing, 1930s–1960s" (ARC Discovery Project, 2013–2018). Previous projects include "Consumption in Late Imperial China: An Early Modern Phenomenon?" (ARC DP 2006–2012); and "Fashionable Times: An Inquiry into the History of China's Modernity" (ARC DP 2003–2004).

Antonia has also collaborated with scholars in the program in her research, including with **Catherine Kovesi**, **Julie Fedor**, **Ara Keys**, and myself. She has also co-edited collections on the Bandung conference (with **Derek McDougall**) and on dress, sex and text in China (with **Anne McLaren**).

She has also published on Chinese human rights issues, Chinese nationalism, the Nanjing massacre, and Australia-China relations. In 1999 she published a book on Jewish Journeys from Shanghai to Australia, called *Far from Where?*, stemming out of a class she taught.

In another marker of Antonia's standing in the field, she was elected a Fellow of the Australian Academy of Humanities in 2007. She has served on the board of the *Journal of Asian Studies* and *Asian Studies Review*. She assisted with the English-language production of the *Journal of Modern Chinese History*, a new journal produced by the Institute of Modern History (Chinese Academy of Social Sciences),

Antonia has taught a range of subjects in the History program, including subjects in Chinese history as well as broader Asian and world history subjects and theoretical subjects.

Stuart Macintyre remembers that the joint appointment of John Fitzgerald and Antonia Finnane to a post in Chinese history in 1985 was an important one, not just because they were the first to share a post, but because it was the first new one that History had been able to make for some years. Stuart recalls that Greg Denning chaired the selection committee. Their appointments were part of a conscious strengthening of Asian history, followed by the appointment also of Vera Mackie, a historian of Japan.

Back in the 1980s, **Charles Coppel** also recalls there was a significant cohort of historians of Asia in the program. With the closure of the Department of Indian and Indonesian Studies at the end of 1987, Dipesh Chakrabarty, a historian of India, and Charles, a historian of Indonesia, were given asylum by the History Department. At the time the Hawke government was keen to promote the study of Asia. Charles recalls that "Antonia was a very able, collaborative and likeable friend and colleague."

Charles joined Antonia in introducing a new first-year subject, "Asian Histories: Uses of the Past" (in 1989, if I'm not mistaken). He recalls "it was very enjoyable and stimulating team-teaching with Antonia (China), Dipesh (India) and me (Indonesia)."

So at one enviable stage, I say now with some lamentation as we lose Antonia, there were 4 historians of Asia in the program covering China, India, Indonesia and Japan.

Stuart Macintyre recalls that when Antonia and John arrived they "both made an immediate adjustment to a new city, carefully refraining from references to Sydney. Given the youth of their children, they had prodigious energy."

In fact, Antonia has always been an energetic and positive contributor to the History program. Over the years she has put up her hand again and again to take on bold initiatives. One was the first-year subject, "The World Since World War Two", launched in the 1990s. Stuart Macintyre recalls that the launching of this subject was a conscious device to "mainstream Asian history", with the additional goal of attracting those who enrolled to take further, more specialised Asian subjects in later years. He shared lectures with Antonia: "Hers were indicative of her interests. These included continental Europe, international and what we would call transnational aspects, cultural history and patterns of everyday life. Her lectures were very rich, treating the first-year students as intelligent and engaged. Like all good teachers, her assumption that they would know and care had the effect of persuading many that they should indeed acquire those qualities."

"There were moments that revealed her awareness this was not always the case, such as when she put an outline map of the state boundaries of East and South-East Asia up on the screen and invited students to name the countries. Most could manage Australia and China, but after that ... She always stressed geography. "

"Over the life of the subject, its chronological coverage grew. Initially we used Hobsbawm's Age of Extremes as a text and explored competing understandings of freedom down to the collapse of the USSR—but the post-communist years presented quite unexpected changes to which she was always alert. "

In the 2000s Antonia continued teaching "The World Since World War Two" and also taught Modern China and historiographical units. She took five years' leave in 2008–2012 to go and work in China while John served as the China representative for the Ford Foundation. Antonia taught at several Chinese universities at that time and continued her research.

Returning to the program, building on her life-long passion for China, Antonia oversaw the Nanjing University Initiative involving an in-country subject that students still rave about called "Town and Country in China and the West" (co-taught with David Goodman), staff exchanges, and a series of joint conferences with staff from Nanjing University, including the symposium held earlier today.

This year alone Antonia took on two new subjects in her last semester, including a PhD seminar on Orientalism and the subject "Cold War Cultures in Asia". She also oversaw the Honours coordination for several years, a role which she seemed to find particularly enjoyable and rewarding.

Michael Francis, a former Honours student who went on to complete a PhD with us, recalled Antonia's Honours teaching:

"I didn't know I was alive until I took Antonia's honours class back in 2013. Talk about a baptism of fire! I don't think I had ever learned so much about historical theory and practice as I did in

that subject, nor indeed since. Antonia had a marvellous ability to motivate her students to engage with challenging content at a deep level. The skills she taught in that class were invaluable, and they are something I have tried to pass on to my own students. It is a shame that incoming honours cohorts will not have the same exposure to Antonia's intellectual rigour."

Seeing Antonia at the final Honours students' exhibition at midyear I was reminded again of how much interest and pride Antonia has always taken in her students, but especially Honours and postgraduate students, who she has nurtured and made most welcome, especially during the term she recently served as Research Higher Degree chair for SHAPS. In that role she strived to make students feel part of a community of scholars; she read their work with care and engagement at reviews, and always tried to do more for them.

Antonia has formed very special relationships with her former and current postgraduate students including me, but also the recent graduate **Xavier Ma**, one of the first PhD students from mainland China to study here with us, and also **Shan Windscrip**, who will speak in a moment, and **Nathan Gardner**, who is coming through now as one of the Hansen Trust PhD scholarship holders.

Antonia was always ready to offer an alternative critical opinion on an academic paper or a new policy. Two colleagues Richard Pennell and Catherine Kovesi interestingly recalled a rather famous expression of Antonia's that arose in a meeting following a curriculum review when we came to consider what coverage we gave to times and places in history. After a long discussion about the need for medieval, early modern and then modern history covering all of Europe and then just greater coverage of the countries of Asia, Antonia paused and summed up: "So: Europe has time and Asia only has place. . . ." This is a perfect summary of the kinds of critiques that Antonia would make.

Antonia has always been a firm advocate for gender equity and for equal opportunity for women and people with families in the program.

She is often ahead of her time. She was the first person in the program with a standing desk well before our move to the Arts West building, yet she is also one for sentiment.

Catherine Kovesi reminded me that as we packed up our offices and the long-term residence of the History program in the John Medley building, perhaps around six years ago, Antonia composed a song to farewell our home and particular rooms that had meaning for us. Those two rooms, as I explained to our postgrads as the recent Snifters Dinner, were the Jessie Webb Library where we used to hear weekly Brown Bag papers, where students could study, and where all the Honours and postgraduate theses were kept. It had a beautiful outlook onto South Lawn and was

filled with light and a sense of history. The second room was the Margaret Kiddle room where we gathered for morning teas with professional and academic staff and postgraduate students every morning for a chat over freshly brewed coffee and biscuits.

To conclude my farewell speech to Antonia then I would like to invite the most renowned singer in the program **Una McIlvenna**, to join me to sing the farewell, with an additional verse added by me for Antonia. Everybody, please do join us for the chorus!

Farewell to old Medley forever!
Farewell to our tea-room as well!
Farewell to the Jessie Webb Library
Where we once used to converse so well.

Chorus:
Singing too-ra-li oo-ra-li addity
Singing too-ra-li oo-ra-li ay
Singing too-ra-li oo-ra-li addity

For we're leaving John Medley today!

'Tain't leaving Old Medley we cares about,
'Tain't 'cos we dislikes where we goes,
But because Margaret Kiddle can't come with us
And the Jessie Webb Library must close.

Chorus
Now all you intending historians,
Take warning that soon we'll be gone,
If you want to pursue your inquiries,
Then you'll find us in Eco and Com.

Chorus
(Extra verse for Antonia)

Now it's six years on from our Medley move
We're here to bid goodbye again
To a dear friend and colleague, who'll be sorely missed
A truly great historian
For Antonia Finnane, will leave us today!

Chorus
Please raise your glass to say farewell to Antonia.

Although we say farewell, we of course hope Antonia will remain engaged with the program, especially through her postgraduates, but also by continuing collaborations, sharing her ongoing research, and, of course, the Nanjing connections, with us.

Kate McGregor
History Discipline Chair 2018



Left to right: Hamish Clark, Luke Yin, Antonia Finnane, Lotte Wong, Conna Speelman. Photo by Georgia Garvey-Hawke.

I'm honoured to have been asked to make a farewell tribute to Antonia on behalf of her postgraduate and honours students. We all feel very emotional at her departure, but I'll keep this speech short, because I'm sure there will be more personal and heartfelt words of appreciation said in our forthcoming theses, which will be completed very soon.

Antonia, you have been a great supervisor to all of us over the years. Your many remarkable qualities have inspired us in so many ways: your knowledge and expertise, your open-mindedness, your humour and hospitality, to mention just a few. You take your responsibilities seriously, and have been incredibly generous and kind to us.

There are so many things that we have learnt from you. But I'll mention a particular one here, and that is your power to foster and nurture connections, to bring people together from across academic traditions, across generations, and indeed, across the world, resulting in a diverse and flourishing intellectual community.

To mark this occasion for you, I've also prepared a little performance. Originally, we were going to sing your favourite song, the Internationale; but we changed our mind for fear of embarrassing you in front of your colleagues.

Before saying some last remarks, I'd like to recite part of a famous Chinese poem, based on which you created your Chinese name, 东篱, meaning, the "eastern fence:"

I pluck chrysanthemums under the eastern fence;
By chance, I see the South Mountain;
Through the soft mountain air of dusk
Flocks of birds are flying home in pairs
This moment holds a deep meaning,
I want to express it, but I'm lost for words.

Antonia, we will miss the anxious wait outside your office before supervision, and the experience of walking away feeling clearer and more confident about our work. We wish you a rich and happy post-retirement life. Your PhD students, Laura Jovic, Nathan Gardner, Katherine Molyneux, Xavier Ma (who is now a postdoc at a top Chinese university), and I, have brought you a present from China; and your honours students, Conna Speelman, Hamish Clark, Luke Yin, and Lotte Wong, have got you some beautiful flowers.

Shan Windscrip
PhD candidate

Major Public Events



Professor Michael Belgrave with Professor Emerita Patricia Grimshaw at the Ernest Scott Lecture reception.

In 2018 we were delighted to host **Professor David Christian** (Macquarie University) to deliver the 2018 Kathleen Fitzpatrick Lecture, “Big History and Truth,” as part of the 2018 “Truth” SHAPS Public Lecture series. It was a pleasure to work together with the **History Council of Victoria** as co-hosts for this event. [A video recording](#) is available online.

The 2018 Ernest Scott Lecture was delivered by **Professor Michael Belgrave** (Massey University), who won the Ernest Scott prize for his book, *Dancing with the King: The Rise and Fall of the King Country, 1864-1885* (Auckland University Press).

Professor Emeritus Gillian Triggs delivered the 10th Greg Denning Memorial Lecture on the topic, “Australia’s Protection of Human Rights: Is a Charter of Rights a Solution?”



Soprano Lisa Salvo and Una McIlvenna

As part of the Arts Faculty’s first involvement with the Being Human Festival, in November 2018 **Dr Una McIlvenna** took members of the public on a musical trip through Australia’s early penal history in “Bound for Botany Bay: Singing Australia’s Convict History”. This free event, held at the Depot, Donkey Wheel House, explored the long history of songs about crime and punishment, beginning with execution ballads from Britain and Ireland, followed by songs about transportation to Botany Bay and Van Diemen’s Land, and ending with convict ballads composed here in Melbourne. Una was joined by the folk singer Lisa Salvo who performed some of the songs in her beautiful soprano voice, but the audience was also able to join in for several of the more well-known ballads. The audience were treated to wine and nibbles, and afterwards were able to discuss their experience and knowledge of Australian folk song with Una.

Research News



In 2019 **Dr Alessandro Antonello** will transition from his position as a McKenzie Postdoctoral Fellow to an Australian Research Council DECRA Fellowship. Working in the fields of environmental history, international history, and the history of science, Alessandro's research has concentrated on many aspects of the history of Antarctica and the Southern Ocean since the mid-twentieth century.

Alessandro joined SHAPS in June 2016 to work on his McKenzie project, "The Contemporary History of the Southern Ocean: The Challenges of Marine Conservation, Ocean Science and International Order, 1950s to Present". This project has sought to understand how contemporary environmental and scientific ideas about the Southern Ocean emerged, and how they have shaped structures of international governance relating to environmental protection and fisheries management.

While at the University of Melbourne, he has also been awarded a grant through the University's Joyce Lambert Antarctic Research Fund and a Humanities Travelling Fellowship from the Australian Academy of the Humanities. With this support he has investigated the idea of "environmental impact" in Antarctica and the ways in which scientists and regulators have, since the 1970s, thought about and tried to prevent and mitigate human damage to the natural world. His ARC DECRA project is titled "An International Environmental History of the 'World Ocean', 1950s-2000s", and will investigate the ways in which states, international organizations, and international communities have engaged with and conceptualised the "World Ocean" as a natural environment from the 1950s to the 2000s. In May 2019 Alessandro will also see the publication of his first book, *The Greening of Antarctica: Assembling an International Environment* (New York: Oxford University Press).

A former History PhD candidate, **Dr Lisandro Claudio**, who now works at De La Salle University in Manila, has been awarded the George McTavish Kahin Book Prize for 2019, for a distinguished scholarly work on Southeast Asia. He won this award for his second book, *Liberalism and the Postcolony: Thinking the State in 20th Century Philippines*, published by the National University of Singapore Press.

Dr Heather Dalton's earlier ground-breaking research on a representation of an Australasian cockatoo in a fifteenth-century painting by Mantegna was expanded in a new publication, together with colleagues in Finland, on an even earlier representation of a cockatoo in a thirteenth-century book of falconry from Sicily. Heather's research has complicated and problematised understandings of the extent and timing of trade routes between Europe, the Middle East, Asia, and Australasia. Her co-authored article which appeared in the journal *Parergon*, gained considerable national and international attention.

Dr Kat Ellinghaus was one of a team awarded a Melbourne Engagement Grant in 2018 for the project "From Mount Margaret Mission to Melbourne—and Back Again: Reconnecting Family and Community Links to Mission Children's Schoolwork held by University of Melbourne Archives." This project brings together an interdisciplinary team (SHAPS, eScholarship Research Centre, and University of Melbourne Archives (UMA)) to reconnect significant Indigenous material at UMA with the communities they originated from: schoolwork by students at the school on Mount Margaret Mission, collected by Valentine Leeper in the 1930s. It will begin a process of engagement and collaboration with Community about the future management of these children's records. The project directly addresses the objectives of Engagement at the University by providing leadership on the use, care and management of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultural heritage within the University's collections.

Postgraduate student **Beth Marsden's** research contributed important new information for UMA's catalogue about the records and about their context. Following further consultation with descendants of the Mount Margaret mission students, the project team hopes to make the updated finding aid publicly accessible later in 2019. Beth also developed a "Context Pack" which was shared with descendants when Sharon Huebner travelled to Kalgoorlie, WA in December 2018 to hand over digital and hard copies of the records. This publication will help to raise awareness in the community about the schoolwork records and how they happened to end up in archival boxes in Brunswick.

Prof. Mark Edele and **Dr Julie Fedor** continued their collaboration with colleagues at the University of Manchester and beyond as part of their project on memory and war in post-socialist countries, funded by the Manchester-Melbourne Humanities Fund. In June 2018 they visited Manchester together with History PhD candidates Nathan Gardner and Sarah Green to present their research at a workshop on "Memories of War in Post-Socialist Space Before and After Crimea." The workshop featured postgraduate panels where students from Melbourne and Manchester shared their work and received detailed feedback from academic discussants.

Mark Edele and Julie Fedor also continued to convene the Melbourne Eurasianist Seminar Series, ably assisted by Nathan Gardner and Fallon Mody. This series is part of a revitalisation of the study of Russia and post-Soviet space at the University of Melbourne in a revival of the traditions laid down by Prof. Stephen Wheatcroft and others. This trend is also reflected in new undergraduate and graduate level subjects launched on Russian and Soviet history in 2019.

Prof. Barbara Keys is continuing to research the role of information and communication technologies in human rights movements. Having written a widely publicized article about the use of the landline phone in the 1980s, she is now turning her attention to the role computerized databases played in shaping how activists defined and conceptualised human rights abuses in the 1990s.

She collaborated with an economist on a piece about financial crises; uncovered Human Rights Watch's central role in denying Beijing the chance to host the 2000 Olympic Games; and published an article about the relationship between Nixon and Brezhnev last year. She is finishing a book on the international campaign to ban torture and starting a new one about Henry Kissinger's half-century as a major advocate for China, including as the PRC's unofficial spokesman in the United States for the 2008 Olympic Games. She is giving a keynote address for a conference at Macquarie about Kissinger's personal dislike for his North Vietnamese counterparts and the role his personal feelings played in drawing out the peace

Dr Bruno Martinho and Catherine Kovesi at the Rhino in Venice exhibition opening.

negotiations to end the Vietnam War, and she is giving keynote addresses at Yale and in Athens on aspects of human rights history. She is also serving in 2019 as president of the 1300-member Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations.

Dr Catherine Kovesi's research on the *longue durée* of Luxury and the effects of uncoupling consumption from ethical constraints resulted in an international symposium and exhibition held in the city of Venice in November–December 2018. The [exhibition](#), "Rhino: Luxury's Fragile Frontier", and its accompanying [symposium](#), "Beauty and the Beast: the Rhino and Venice", brought together two unlikely companions: the rhinoceros and the city of Venice. Together these events highlighted and interrogated the consequences of luxury consumption on an endangered beast and an endangered city. The exhibition centred on the sculptures of Venetian artist **Gigi Bon** and Taiwanese artist **Shih Li-Jen**; a video installation by Australian wildlife advocate **Lynn Johnson**; and poetry by the Canadian poet **Ronna Bloom**. The event received sponsorship from Grimshaw Architects Melbourne office, champions of sustainable cityscapes, and the SHAPS engagement fund, as well as several private donors. Papers from the symposium will be published in a special edition of the journal *Luxury: History, Culture, Consumption*.

Catherine Kovesi is also leading an intervarsity digital humanities research project, "Textiles, Trade and Meaning" on behalf of the Australasian Centre for Italian Studies. This project is affiliated with the award-winning digital humanities Isabella d'Este Archive Project (IDEA) based at the University of California Irvine. Focusing on





representations and meanings of cloth and clothing in the famous portrait by Titian of Isabella d'Este, fifteenth-century marchioness of Mantua, the group are working in close collaboration with the Arts eLearning team at the University of Melbourne to produce an interactive interpretive model of the clothing in this portrait.

[My Marvellous Melbourne](#) is a podcast produced by staff and students affiliated with the Melbourne History Workshop in the School of Historical and Philosophical Studies at the University of Melbourne, under the direction of **Professor Andy May**. Segments combine stories, interviews, personal reflections and memories that interest and inspire the team about the social history of the city and suburbs.

My Marvellous Melbourne draws on and adds to the resources of the Encyclopedia of Melbourne project, which is also [freely accessible online](#).

Stories in 2018 included a history of women in the Victorian police force, a murder in the Eastern Market, a feature on the Melbourne writer Jean Field, and a reflection on the sound of bells in the city landscape.

If you have more to add on any of the podcast stories, or have a question about any aspect of Melbourne's history, drop the team a line and they may be able to follow it up in their *Can We Help?* segment (mmm-info@unimelb.edu.au).

Dr Una McIlvenna's research into early modern and nineteenth-century European execution ballads is now available via an open access [Omeka database](#). Una was assisted in setting up the database by **Julianne Bell**, a PhD candidate in the Grimwade Centre, who worked with Una as part of the successful 2018 Digital Internship Scheme run through the Digital Studio; you can learn more about the project and its construction [here](#). The database will not only allow Una to easily consult her data for her own publications, but the general public can now explore the incredible variety of ballads in multiple languages, look at the original ballad sheets and pamphlets and in some cases listen to recordings of the ballads.

Dr Carla Pascoe Leahy is mid-way through a six-year Australian Research Council project on the history of Australian mothering. Following the success of her 2018 symposium on Australian Mothering in Historical and Comparative Perspective, Carla is co-editing the volume *Australian Mothering: Historical and Sociological Perspectives* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2019), which defines the field of maternal studies in Australia for the first time. Leading motherhood researchers explore how mothering has evolved across Australian history as well as the joys and challenges of being a mother today. Chapters cover pregnancy, birth, relationships, childcare, domestic violence, time use, work, welfare, policy and psychology, from a range of perspectives including those of migrant, Aboriginal, lesbian, single and adoptive mothers. Carla has also co-edited a special "Parenting" issue of the *British Oral History* journal, which brings together qualitative research on mothering, fathering, parenting and grandparenting across Australia, Israel, New Zealand and the United Kingdom. Stemming from her conviction that histories of mothering and histories of children are deeply intertwined, Carla continues to research the parental relationship from both sides. Her co-edited volume *Children's Voices: Historical and Interdisciplinary Perspectives* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2019) makes an original contribution to ongoing historiographical debates about how we can "hear" the voices, emotions, perspectives and experiences of children in the past.

New Books by History Staff, Fellows and Graduates

Alessandro Antonello, *The Greening of Antarctica: Assembling an International Environment* (New York: Oxford University Press, May 2019)

In *The Greening of Antarctica* Alessandro Antonello investigates the development of an international regime of environmental protection and management between the signing of the Antarctic Treaty in 1959 and the signing of the Convention on the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources in 1980. In those two decades, the Antarctic Treaty parties and an international community of scientists reimagined what many considered a cold, sterile, and abiotic wilderness as a fragile and extensive regional ecosystem. Antonello investigates this change by analyzing the negotiations and developments surrounding four environmental agreements: the Agreed Measures for the Conservation of Antarctic Fauna and Flora in 1964; the Convention for the Conservation of Antarctic Seals in 1972; a voluntary restraint resolution on Antarctic mining in 1977; and the Convention on the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources in 1980.

Though distant from world populations, Antarctica has long been a site of inter-state contest for geopolitical power and standing. This book reveals how a range of contests, geopolitical, epistemic and imaginative, created the environmental protection regime of the Antarctic Treaty System, and discusses the tension between states' individual searches for power and the collective desire for stability in the region. In this international and diplomatic context, the actors were not only trying to keep relations between themselves orderly, but they were also using treaties to order the human relationship with the environment.

Drawing on a wide range of international archives, many newly-opened, *The Greening of Antarctica* offers the first detailed narrative of a crucial period in Antarctic history and reveals the contours of global environmental thought and diplomacy in the transformative Age of Ecology.

Ken Barelli, *New Homes for the Old: A History of the Vermont Elderly People's Homes* (2018)

This short history of the Vermont Elderly People's Homes tells the story of how the homes, once imagined by some in the community, became a reality.

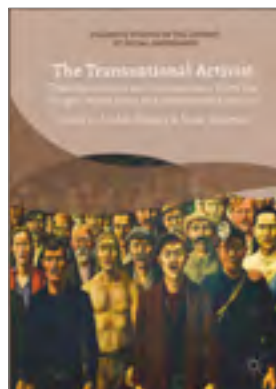
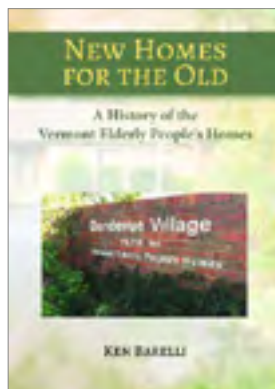
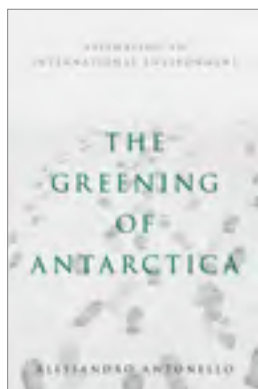
The origin of the Homes is in the little-known Church and Life Movement of the 1960s. Protestant churches were encouraged to find practical ways to live out their faith and the churches in Vermont started a community support service to minister to the rapidly growing suburb.

Once the need of accommodation for the financially disadvantaged was identified, it added housing to its endeavours. The VEPH sparked community interest and was the recipient of several generous gifts of land. An Opportunity Shop was started to help fundraising and together with support through the Commonwealth Housing Scheme, six independent living units were built. As funds allowed, more were added until there is now 50 in operation.

The VEPH remains a local endeavour, managed by volunteers, and is a rare survivor of practical community activism that has served the Vermont community for 50 years.

Stefan Berger and Sean Scalmer (eds), *The Transnational Activist: Transformations and Comparisons from the Anglo-World since the Nineteenth Century* (Palgrave Macmillan 2018)

This book provides the first historical and comparative study of the "transnational activist". A range of important recent scholarship has considered the rise of global social movements, the presence of transnational networks, and the transfer or diffusion of political techniques. Much of this writing has registered the pivotal role of "transnational" or "global" activists. However, if the significance of the "transnational activist" is now routinely acknowledged, then the history of this actor is still something of a mystery. Most commentators have associated the figure with contemporary history. Hence much of the debate around "transnational activism" is ahistorical, and claims for novelty are not often based on developed historical comparison.



As this volume argues, it is possible to identify the “transnational activist” in earlier decades and even centuries. But when did this figure first appear? What are the historical conditions that nurtured its emergence? What are the principal moments in the development of the transnational activist? And do the transnational activists of the Internet age differ in number or nature from those of earlier years? These historical questions are at the heart of this volume.

The volume includes chapters by Liam Byrne, Hannah Loney, Kate McGregor, Iain McIntyre, Gonzalo Villanueva, and Chloe Ward.

Joy Damousi and Patricia O’Brien (eds), *League of Nations: Histories, Legacies and Impact* (Melbourne University Press, 2018)

League of Nations offers new perspectives on the history, legacies and impact of the League of Nations. The essays in this collection demonstrate how vastly diverse topics from film, education, Christian youth movements, colonial rule in the Pacific islands, national economic analyses, disarmament, humanitarianism and refugees as well as international relations, national sovereignty and domestic League of Nations associations—all led to Geneva. As well as the shared connection with Geneva and the League, the chapters are temporally aligned within the twenty-five-year lifespan of the League, from 1920 to 1946. Together the book revitalises the history of the League, and deepens understandings of how its “many organs” operated and impacted on far-flung parts of the globe, simultaneously crossing borders and scholarly boundaries.

R. W. Davies, Mark Harrison, Oleg Khlevnyuk and Stephen Wheatcroft, *The Soviet Economy and the Approach of War, 1937-1939*, volume 7 (Palgrave Macmillan 2018).

This is the final volume in the 7-volume series *The Industrialisation of Soviet Russia 1929-1939* led by Professor R. W. Davies of the Centre for Russian and East European Studies (CREES), Birmingham University. This series could also be seen as a partial extension of the 14-volume E. H. Carr series *The Bolshevik Revolution, 1917-29*, in which R. W. Davies collaborated on the volumes on *The Foundations of a Planned Economy, 1926-1929*. The volumes in these series are arguably the

most detailed analysis of the most crucial development of the first half of the twentieth century, and arguably in world history.

Stephen Wheatcroft was co-author of the last three volumes: with R. W. Davies in volume 5, *The Years of Hunger: Soviet Agriculture, 1931-1933* (2004; Russian edition 2011); with R. W. Davies and Oleg Khlevniuk on volume 6, *The Years of Progress: The Soviet Economy, 1934-1936* (2014); and with R. W. Davies, Oleg Khlevniuk and Mark Harrison on volume 7, *The Soviet Economy and the Approach of War, 1937-1939* (Palgrave Macmillan 2018). He had main responsibility for the chapters on agriculture, demography, and state statistics, and contributed to sections on planning and repression.

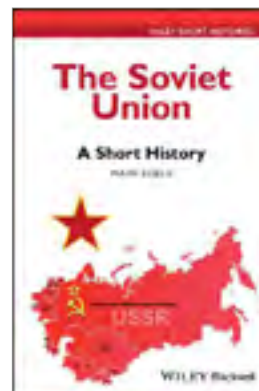
Stephanie Downes, Sally Holloway and Sarah Randles (eds), *Feeling Things: Objects and Emotions through History* (Oxford University Press, 2018)

This is the first volume to address the junction between materiality and the spectrum of human emotions in the past. It draws from the fields of material culture studies and the history of emotions, resulting in a strongly interdisciplinary volume, and allows readers to consider the historical study of both objects and emotions from innovative new perspectives.

Mark Edale, *The Soviet Union: A Short History* (Wiley Blackwell, 2018)

In ten concise and compelling chapters, *The Soviet Union* covers the entire Soviet experience from the years 1904 to 1991 by putting the focus on three major themes: warfare, welfare, and empire. Throughout the book, Mark Edale—a noted expert on the topic—clearly demonstrates that the Soviet Union was more than simply “Russia.” Instead, it was a multi-ethnic empire.

The author explains that there were many incarnations of Soviet society throughout its turbulent history, each one a representative of Soviet socialism. The text covers a wide range of topics: The end of the Romanov empire; the outbreak of World War I; the Bolshevik Revolution of 1917; the breakdown of the old empire and its re-constitution in the Civil War; the New



Economic Policy; the rise of Stalin; the Soviet Union's role in World War II; post-war normalization; and Gorbachev's attempt to end the Cold War. The author also explores the challenges encountered by the successor states, their struggles with and against democracy, capitalism, authoritarianism, and war.

Juliet Flesch, *Not Just Profs & Toffs: Families Living in the University of Melbourne Grounds* (Australian Scholarly Publishing, 2018)

In 2017 construction of the underground Parkville Station in Grattan Street obliged the University of Melbourne Vice-Chancellor to leave the house in which his family and those of his predecessors had lived for the previous 80 years. The grounds were devoid of residents for the first time in 160 years.

Like the Gatekeeper's Lodge at the Main Entrance and the Staff Club backing on to Tin Alley, the house remains but, like them and a score of others since demolished, nobody lives there.

During its first hundred years the University of Melbourne grounds housed professors, gardeners, porters, messengers, dissecting room attendants and laboratory technicians, all with families, many of whom spent decades on campus. *Not Just Profs and Toffs* tells the story of some of those families, looking at their physical accommodation, social interactions and to what extent living in what was at time a gated community affected them.

Michael Francis, *Contesting Catholic Identity: The Foundation of Newman College, Melbourne, 1914-1918*

Michael Francis' debut book, *Contesting Catholic Identity*, examines the foundation of Newman College within the University of Melbourne, 1914-1918. Newman opened during a period when Catholicism was considered synonymous with radicalism and anti-imperialist Irish nationalism. This identity was heavily constructed, and far from natural. Indeed, Newman College represented a dynamic site of contention in the ongoing process of identity formation within the Catholic community of Victoria during the early twentieth century. Its foundation became both emblematic of these cultural characteristics, and also contributed to them. Throughout its development, clerical and lay leaders engaged in vigorous debate about what it meant to be Catholic: Conservative or progressive? Loyalist or radical? British or Australian? Rich or poor? Integrated

or separated? Their various visions for Newman College reveal a web of complex conflicts over ethnicity, class and politics. Within the crucible of these often acrimonious disputes, Catholic Victoria's distinctively Irish identity was shaped and consolidated.

David Goodman, *Radio's Civic Ambition: American Broadcasting and Democracy in the 1930s* (Oxford University Press, 2011)

was published in 2018 in Japanese translation (Tokyo: Iwanami Shoten), reflecting the book's status as "a new classic in media history" (from the cover of the Japanese edition).

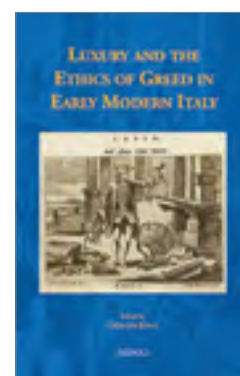
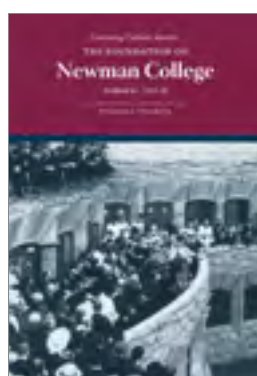
Barbara J. Keys (ed.), *The Ideals of Global Sport: From Peace to Human Rights* (University of Pennsylvania Press 2019)

Does international sport make the world a better place? This volume critically examines the claims that global sports events promote peace, mutual understanding, antiracism, and democracy, and exposes repeated shortcomings in human rights protection, from the 1980 Moscow Olympic Games to Brazil's 2014 World Cup and 2016 Olympics.

Catherine Kovesi (ed.), *Luxury and the Ethics of Greed in Early Modern Italy* (Brepols 2018)

This book unravels the complex interaction of the paradigms of luxury and greed which lie at the origins of modern consumption practices. In the Western world, the phenomenon of luxury and the ethical dilemmas it raised appeared, for the first time since antiquity, in early modern Italy. Here, luxury emerged as a core idea in the conceptualization of consumption. Simultaneously, greed — which manifested in new and unrestrained consumption practices — came under close ethical scrutiny. As the buying power of new classes gained pace, these paradigms evolved as they continued both to influence, and be influenced by, other emerging global cultures through the early modern period.

After defining luxury and greed in their historical contexts, the volume's chapters elucidate new consumptive goods, from chocolate to official robes of state; they examine how ideas about, and objects of, luxury and greed were disseminated through print, diplomacy, and gift-giving; and they reveal how even the most elite of consumers could fake their luxury objects. A group of international scholars from a range of disciplines thereby provide a new appraisal and vision of luxury and the ethics of greed in early modern Italy.



Marilyn Lake, *Progressive New World: How Settler Colonialism and TransPacific Exchange Shaped American Reform* (Harvard University Press in January 2019)

The paradox of progressivism continues to fascinate more than one hundred years on. Democratic but elitist, emancipatory but coercive, advanced and assimilationist, Progressivism was defined by its contradictions. In a bold new argument, Marilyn Lake points to the significance of turn-of-the-twentieth-century exchanges between American and Australasian reformers who shared racial sensibilities, along with a commitment to forging an ideal social order. *Progressive New World* demonstrates that race and reform were mutually supportive as Progressivism became the political logic of settler colonialism.

White settlers in the United States, who saw themselves as path-breakers and pioneers, were inspired by the state experiments of Australia and New Zealand that helped shape their commitment to an active state, women’s and workers’ rights, mothers’ pensions, and child welfare. Both settler societies defined themselves as New World, against Old World feudal and aristocratic societies and Indigenous peoples deemed backward and primitive.

In conversations, conferences, correspondence, and collaboration, transpacific networks were animated by a sense of racial kinship and investment in social justice. While “Asiatics” and “Blacks” would be excluded, segregated, or deported, Indians and Aborigines would be assimilated or absorbed. The political mobilizations of Indigenous progressives—in the Society of American Indians and the Australian Aborigines’ Progressive Association—testified to the power of Progressive thought but also to its repressive underpinnings. Burdened by the legacies of dispossession and displacement, Indigenous reformers sought recognition and redress in differently imagined new worlds and thus redefined the meaning of Progressivism itself.

Dashiel Lawrence and Ashley Browne (eds), *People of the Boot: The Triumphs and Tragedy of Australian Jews in Sport* (Hybrid Publishers 2018)

Jews have made a unique and profound contribution to the Australian sporting landscape. Among them: world champions, rugby internationals, AFL premiership winners, test cricketers,

Olympic medallists and countless administrators who have kept major clubs and codes afloat. Yet their part in the on-field and off-field narrative of Australian sport has been left unwritten. Until now.

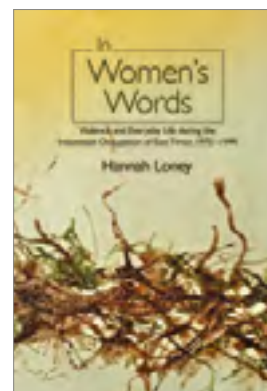
People of the Boot: The Triumphs and Tragedy of Australian Jews in Sport tells the remarkable and unheralded stories of how an ethnic community forged their own distinct path in Australian sport. It draws together some of Australia’s brightest journalists, sport writers, editors, researchers and broadcasters to offer fresh insights into a remarkable tale of multicultural success.

Hannah Loney, *In Women’s Words: Violence and Everyday Life during the Indonesian Occupation of East Timor, 1975-99* (Sussex Academic Press 2018)

Drawing primarily upon oral history interviews, this study presents a woman-centred history of the Indonesian occupation. It reveals the pervasiveness of violence—as well as its gendered and gendering dynamics—within the social and cultural “everyday” of life in occupied East Timor.

The violence experienced by East Timorese women ranged from torture, rape, and interrogation, to various forms of surveillance and social control, and the structural imposition of particular feminine ideals upon their lives and bodies. Through women, East Timorese familial culture was also targeted via programmes to “develop” and “modernise” the territory by transforming the feminine and the domestic sphere. Women experienced the occupation differently to men, not just because they were vulnerable to sexual violence, but also because they endured proxy violence as the military’s means of targeting male relatives and the resistance at large.

In Women’s Words tells a story of survival and perseverance by highlighting the strength, initiative, and negotiating skills of East Timorese women. Many women lived in circumstances of constant negotiation and attempts to maintain order and normality, as well as to provide for themselves and their families, in a society where everyday life was characterised by violence and uncertainty. This study demonstrates the capacity of people to survive, to endure, and to resist, even amid the most difficult of circumstances. It provides insights into the social and cultural elements of territorial control, as well as the locally-grounded strategies that are often used for negotiating and resisting an occupying power.



Bronwyn Lowe, *“The Right Thing to Read”: A History of Australian Girl-Readers, 1910–1960* (Routledge, 2018)

This book explores the reading habits, identity, and construction of femininity of Australian girls aged between ten and fourteen from 1910 to 1960. It investigates changing notions of Australian girlhood across the period, and explores the ways that parents, teachers, educators, journalists and politicians attempted to mitigate concerns about girls’ development through the promotion of “healthy” literature.

The book also addresses the influence of British publishers on Australian girl-readers and the growing importance of Australian publishers throughout the period. It considers the rise of Australian literary nationalism in the global context, and the increasing prominence of Australian literature in the period after the Second World War. It also shows how access to reading material for girls improved over the first half of the last century.

Elizabeth Malcolm and Dianne Hall, *A New History of the Irish in Australia* (Sydney: NewSouth Publishing, November 2018; and Cork: Cork University Press, Feb. 2019).

Irish immigrants—although despised as inferior on racial and religious grounds and feared as a threat to national security—were one of modern Australia’s most influential founding peoples. In his landmark 1986 book *The Irish in Australia*, Patrick O’Farrell argued that the Irish were central to the evolution of Australia’s national character through their refusal to accept a British identity. *A New History of the Irish in Australia* takes a fresh approach. It draws on source materials not used until now and focuses on topics previously neglected, such as race, stereotypes, gender, popular culture, employment discrimination, immigration restriction, eugenics, crime and mental health.

This important book also considers the Irish in Australia within the worldwide Irish diaspora. Elizabeth Malcolm and Dianne Hall reveal what Irish Australians shared with Irish communities elsewhere, while reminding us that the Irish–Australian experience was—and is—unique.

“A necessary corrective to the false unity of the term ‘Anglo-Celtic’, this beautifully controlled and clear-sighted intervention is timely and welcome. It gives us not just a history of the Irish in Australia, but a skilful account of how identity is formed relationally, often through sectarian, class, ethnic and racial divisions. A masterful book.” — Professor Rónán McDonald, University of Melbourne

“... the collaboration between Malcolm and Hall has delivered a hugely significant book that fully deserves its title: its findings are original and challenging...” (*Irish Times* (Dublin), 2 February 2019).

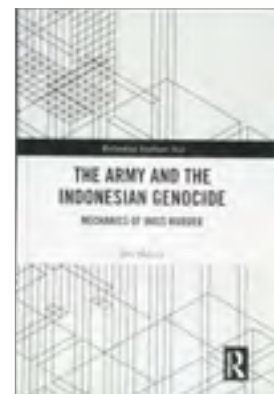
“... Malcolm and Hall make a point of breaking with the orthodoxies of previous generations of Australian historians ... The promise of a ‘new’ history of the Irish in Australia is carried through resoundingly in this book” (*The Age/Sydney Morning Herald*, 11 January 2019).

Katharine McGregor, Jess Melvin and Annie Pohlman (eds), *The Indonesian Genocide of 1965: Causes, Dynamics and Legacies* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2018)

This collection of essays by Indonesian and foreign contributors offers new and highly original analyses of the mass violence in Indonesia which began in 1965 and its aftermath. Fifty years on from one of the largest genocides of the twentieth century, they probe the causes, dynamics and legacies of this violence through the use of a wide range of sources and different scholarly lenses.

Iain McIntyre (ed.), *On the Fly! Hobo Literature and Songs, 1879–1941* (Oakland’s PM Press, 2018)

This anthology of stories, poems, songs and articles ranges beyond the enduring stereotypes of merry tramps and hopeless tramps to bring forth the lost voices of American Hobohemia. From the 1870s through to the 1940s, hoboes played a crucial but largely neglected role in the creation of not only America’s infrastructure, industry, and agriculture, but also its culture, politics, and music. With little of the original memoirs, literature, and verse remaining in print, the collection provides an insiders’ history of the subculture’s rise and fall. It is aided by a glossary of hobo vernacular and numerous illustrations and photos.



Jess Melvin, *The Army and the Indonesian Genocide: Mechanics of Mass Murder* (Routledge: 2018)

For the past half century, the Indonesian military has depicted the 1965–66 killings, which resulted in the murder of approximately one million unarmed civilians, as the outcome of a spontaneous uprising. This formulation not only denied military agency behind the killings, it also denied that the killings could ever be understood as a centralised, nation-wide campaign.

Using documents from the former Indonesian Intelligence Agency's archives in Banda Aceh this book shatters the Indonesian government's official propaganda account of the mass killings and proves the military's agency behind those events. This book tells the story of the 3,000 pages of top-secret documents that comprise the Indonesian genocide files. Drawing upon these orders and records, along with the previously unheard stories of 70 survivors, perpetrators, and other eyewitnesses of the genocide in Aceh province it reconstructs, for the first time, a detailed narrative of the killings using the military's own accounts of these events. This book makes the case that the 1965–66 killings can be understood as a case of genocide, as defined by the 1948 Genocide Convention.

Pete Minard, *All Things Harmless, Useful, and Ornamental: Environmental Transformation through Species Acclimatization, from Colonial Australia to the World* (UNC Press, 2019)

Species acclimatization—the organized introduction of organisms to a new region—is much maligned in the present day. However, colonization depended on moving people, plants, and animals from place to place, and in centuries past, scientists, landowners, and philanthropists formed acclimatization societies to study local species and conditions, form networks of supporters, and exchange supposedly useful local and exotic organisms across the globe.

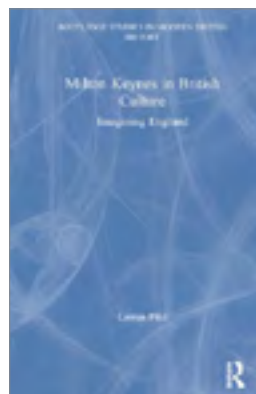
Pete Minard tells the story of this movement, arguing that the colonies, not the imperial centers, led the movement for species acclimatization. Far from attempting to re-create London or Paris, settlers sought to combine plants and animals to correct earlier environmental damage and to populate forests, farms, and

streams to make them healthier and more productive. By focusing particularly on the Australian colony of Victoria, Minard reveals a global network of would-be acclimatizers, from Britain and France to Russia and the United States. Although the movement was short-lived, the long reach of nineteenth-century acclimatization societies continues to be felt today, from choked waterways to the uncontrollable expansion of European pests in former colonies.

Lauren Pikó, *Milton Keynes in British Culture: Imagining England* (Routledge, 2019)

The new town of Milton Keynes was designated in 1967 with a bold, flexible social vision to impose “no fixed conception of how people ought to live.” Despite this progressive social vision, and its low density, flexible, green urban design, the town has been consistently represented in British media, political rhetoric and popular culture negatively. as a fundamentally sterile, paternalistic, concrete imposition on the landscape, as a “joke”, and even as “Los Angeles in Buckinghamshire”. How did these meanings develop at such odds from residents’ and planners’ experiences? Why have these meanings proved so resilient?

Milton Keynes in British Culture traces the representations of Milton Keynes in British national media, political rhetoric and popular culture in detail from 1967 to 1992, demonstrating how the town's founding principles came to be understood as symbolic of the worst excesses of a post-war state planning system which was falling from favour. Combining approaches from urban planning history, cultural history and cultural studies, political economy and heritage studies, the book maps the ways in which Milton Keynes' newness formed an existential challenge to ideals of English landscapes as receptacles of tradition and closed, fixed national identities. Far from being a marginal, “foreign” and atypical town, the book demonstrates how the changing political fortunes of state urban planned spaces were a key site of conflict around ideas of how the British state should function, how its landscapes should look, and who they should be for.



Carolyn Rasmussen, *Shifting the Boundaries: The University of Melbourne 1975-2015* (MUP 2018)

The University of Melbourne was already over 110 years old when this history begins. The second oldest university in Australia, it has been graced with a number of histories written by eminent historians. Each of these histories has documented the University's evolution and diversification from the perspective of their time.

Shifting the Boundaries: The University of Melbourne 1975-2015 continues that story, but the period covered is entirely within living memory. It pauses at ten-year intervals, the first at 1975, to look back at the previous decade. We are invited to enter the University of Melbourne as a living institution, and to watch it as it responds to changing expectations of students, staff and community, to shifting policy frameworks and to an evolving economic and social context.

The principal themes that arc across this story involve massive growth, the evolution towards a research-intensive institution, changing pedagogical imperatives, bureaucratisation and internationalisation in the face of declining public funding.

Carolyn Rasmussen, *The Blackburns: Private Lives, Public Ambitions* (MUP, 2019)

When socialist barrister and aspiring member of parliament Maurice Blackburn met Doris Hordern, ardent feminist and campaign secretary to Vida Goldstein, neither had marriage in their imagined futures. But they fell in love—with each other as much as with their individual aspirations to change the world for the better. Theirs would be an exacting partnership as they held one another to the highest ideals. They worked as elected members of parliaments and community activists, influencing conscription laws, benefits for working men and women, atomic bomb tests, civil rights and Indigenous recognition. Together, they shook Australia.

"A fascinating journey with two idealistic activists through fifty years of progressive causes: from opposition to conscription and nuclear testing at Maralinga, to support for the labour movement and the struggle for indigenous citizenship"—Judith Brett

Tyson Retz, *Empathy and History* (Berghahn Books 2018)

Since empathy first emerged as an object of inquiry within British history education in the early 1970s, teachers, scholars and policymakers have debated the concept's role in the teaching and learning of history. Yet over the years this discussion has been confined to specialized education outlets, while empathy's broader significance for history and philosophy has too often gone unnoticed. *Empathy and History* is the first comprehensive account of empathy's place in the practice, teaching, and philosophy of history. Beginning with the concept's roots in nineteenth-century German historicism, the book follows its historical development, transformation, and deployment while revealing its relevance for practitioners today.

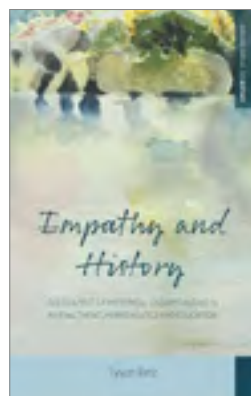
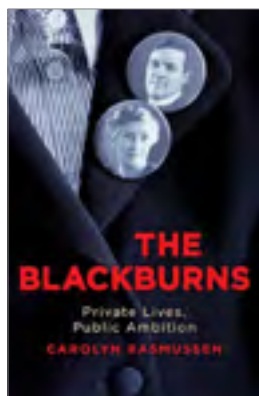
"It is truly fascinating to accompany Retz as he examines international perceptions, transfers and combinations of empathy-related concepts across the world"—Juliane Brauer, Max Planck Institute for Human Development.

Thomas James Rogers, *The Civilisation of Port Phillip: Settler Ideology, Violence, and Rhetorical Possession* (MUP, 2018)

Port Phillip's free settlers often said that they were civilising a wilderness. The truth was that the occupied country already had people, laws, politics, and economies. What did "civilisation" mean to the free settlers? And what was the relationship between civilising and violence?

The Civilisation of Port Phillip tracks the violent history of the first years of British settlement in the Port Phillip District, now the state of Victoria. It illuminates the underlying free-settler rhetoric that advocated and abetted violence on the frontier. For the first time, we hear the settlers tell us in their own words what the civilisation of Port Phillip really involved.

Frontier violence in Port Phillip involved Aboriginal peoples, convicts, free settlers and colonial officials. This history shows how the lives of these different people interconnected in early Port Phillip, in unlikely friendships, dire misunderstandings, and fatal clashes. It paints a vivid picture of the period drawn from archival records, a thorough re-reading of older histories, and new ideas in the scholarship of violence.



As well as sheep and firearms, free settlers brought Enlightenment ideas about civilisation to Port Phillip. When these European ideas were coupled with Australian frontier experience, they manifested in an exterminatory attitude towards people deemed undesirable in the coming colony. The *Civilisation of Port Phillip* shows how free-settler rhetoric, law, and systems of classification reinforced and sought to justify the violence of the frontier.

Gonzalo Villanueva, *A Transnational History of the Australian Animal Movement, 1970–2015* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2018)

This book offers the first transnational historical study of the creation, contention and consequences of the Australian animal movement. Largely inspired by Peter Singer and his 1975 book *Animal Liberation*, a new wave of animal activism emerged in Australia and across the world. In an effort to draw public and media attention to the plight of animals, such as the rearing of pigs and poultry in factory farms and the export of live animals to the Middle East and South East Asia, Australian activists were often innovative and provocative in how they made their claims. Through lobbying, disruptive methods, and vegan activism, the animal movement consistently contested the politics and culture of how animals were used and exploited. Australians not only observed and learnt from people and events overseas, but also played significant international roles. This book examines the complex and conflicting consequences of the animal movement for Australian politics, as well as its influence on broader social change.

Volkhard Wehner, *The German-speaking Community of Victoria between 1850 and 1930: Origin, Progress and Decline* (Berlin: Lit Verlag, 2018)

At the time of Australian Federation in 1901, German immigrants constituted two per cent of the population of Victoria.

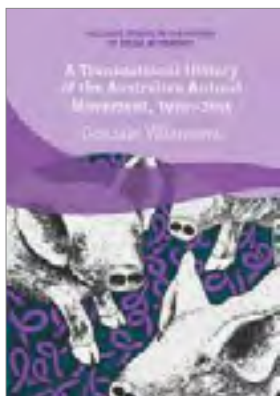
This book examines how they settled, attempted to form a communal infrastructure, and how they related to their Anglo-Celtic hosts. It investigates why no cohesive and durable community developed and what role the Lutheran Church, German associations and community leaders played in this, and what significance can be attributed to an early and continuing rift between rural and urban communities. The changing relationship between the British Empire, the German Reich and emerging Australian nationalism also receives close attention.

With only minor changes, this book grew out of the author's doctoral thesis in History submitted at the University of Melbourne in 2017. It had its antecedents in the author's self-published book on Melbourne's German-speaking community in the 1850s and 'sixties, *Heimat Melbourne: A History of the German-speaking Community of Melbourne, 1855-1865* (2010), which concluded with the largely unsolved question why that community, which culturally and intellectually had played such a dominant role in Victoria, should virtually fade into oblivion by the first quarter of the twentieth century. The answer to that question forms one of the core elements of the present book.

After examining the causes of German emigration and the nature of German settlement in Victoria, the author identifies the disparate origin of the immigrants as an early and ultimately most significant factor that predetermined their failure to meld into a cohesive and united group. Of three distinct streams of German-speaking immigrants to Victoria prior to 1860, two groups had rural backgrounds. The first group, from Silesia and eastern Saxony, arrived from the late 1840s and settled in the rural hinterland near Melbourne, while a second group in the 1850s came overland from South Australia and settled in western Victoria. Though both groups almost without exception adhered to the Lutheran faith and were deeply committed to their beliefs, the latter group, so-called Old Lutherans, isolated themselves from the former. The third group arrived after the discovery of gold in Victoria. Unlike the other two groups, most of its members were better educated, in many cases came from urban areas, and eventually settled in Melbourne, where they established a lively cultural and social life, though attempting to establish few links with the other two groups.

In 1871, after Germany was unified for the first time as a nation state following the defeat of Imperial France in the Franco-Prussian War, Victoria's German-speaking community experienced a short burst of nationalist euphoria that brought the three disparate groups briefly together. That unity was not to last. The author argues that the rise of imperial Germany in the 1880s and its colonial policies in the South Pacific alarmed Australians and led to a gradual deterioration of the benign attitude Australians had previously adopted towards their German fellow settlers. After the outbreak of the war in 1914 this negative attitude turned into open hostility and persecution both at government and private levels.

Examining the fate of urban and rural German settlements in consequence of the foregoing, the author tests and then proves a hypothesis that rural communities showed greater resilience and were better equipped to survive, while urban communities were not.



Book launches



*Launch of Not Just Profs and Toffs.
Back row: Frank Paton; Heather (Paton) Winneke;
Elspeth (Paton) Jacobs; Heather (Campbell) Johnston;
Geoff Howlett; Ronald Campbell; Mark Derham; William Agar.
Front row: Valerie (Hartung) Judges; Juliet Flesch;
Norah (Howlett) Killip; Margaret (Cunning) Preston*



Valerie Judges in the room where she was born, now the Victoria Room of University House.



Kate McGregor, Hannah Loney, and Kirsty Sword Gusmão launch Hannah Loney's book.



Bronwyn Lowe launches "The Right Thing to Read".



Tom Rogers with Andy May at the launch of The Civilisation of Port Phillip.

Teaching News and Innovation

New History Curriculum

The Hansen gift has enabled us to hire a group of remarkable historians. They offer new subjects in early modern European history, in Asian history, and the history of the Soviet Union and its successor states. The Hansen gift has also made a comprehensive curriculum review possible. Since taking up the Hansen Chair in the middle of 2017, I have led several intense rounds of consultations with colleagues, students, and curriculum specialists. The result of this process was a new history curriculum, which we are rolling out from this year onwards.

The new curriculum is built around three principles: new first year subjects, pathways, and progression of skill development. The new first year subjects are: *Dictators and Democrats: The Modern World, Europe: From Black Death to New Worlds*, and *Cleopatra to Clinton: Women in Leadership*. They are taught by teams of senior academics to anchor the student experience from first year and serve as anchors for the pathways through the history major.

The pathways are voluntary: students continue to have the option of tailoring their own path through the major according to their interests. As we have learned from student surveys and focus groups, however, many students feel lost in a major which gives them maximum choice. International examples also suggest that clearly articulated pathways are part of curricula which have managed to evade the global trend to declining enrolments in history. Pathways build cohorts of students interested in a particular aspect of the past. We have developed three pathways. The two larger ones are *Political & International History* and *Social & Cultural History*. They each have two sub-streams and will be introduced from 2019. The third pathway is smaller but has the largest share of new subjects: *Gender History*. It caters to a growing student demand in gender studies and will be introduced from 2020.

The final principle is progression: as history majors move from first to third year, they are systematically instructed in the historian's craft. After general introductions to the complexity of historical knowledge and historical research in first year they work with primary sources and discuss methodological questions in second year subjects before moving on to understanding historical debate and historiography in third year. A reformed capstone subject—our only compulsory subject—brings majors from all pathways together. Built around a major research project, it builds on the skills and interests students have developed throughout the major.

The new curriculum is being rolled out this year with the introduction of two of the three new first year subjects. The alignment of the upper level subjects will follow from 2020 onwards, when we will also introduce the new gender history pathway. At the end of this year, in October, we will celebrate the new curriculum with an exhibition of student work as well as a public lecture by Shaun Walker, *The Guardian's* long-time Moscow

correspondent and now roving reporter in Eastern Europe, who will speak on the importance his background in history has made to his work. Keep your eyes out for the event invitations!

Mark Edele

Hansen Professor in History

History Capstone 2018

The undergraduate History Major at the University of Melbourne culminates in the capstone subject, Making History (HIST30060). In this subject, students are given the chance to design and produce an independent historical research project on a topic of their own choice, offering students a unique opportunity to grow and shine as budding historians. It gives them the creative freedom and space to explore new ways of using the tools, skills and knowledge acquired across three years of learning in history. The subject ends with a showcase event, celebrating the best projects and giving students the chance to develop presentation skills and to share their work.

The 2018 crop of capstone projects was especially rich. Working together in four research workshop streams, students developed projects on a wide range of topics, across time and space. These included moving explorations of family history (Veera Ramayah's oral history study of the Sindhi-Hindu experience of partition; Jessica O'Lughlen's photographic essay on the history of her grandparents' house in Tubbul, NSW); food history (Alexandra Veljanovski's exploration of Footscray's migrant past through a history of [a local Italian cake shop](#)); and environmental history (David Mastrantuono's study of the demise of the Australian fur trade, and [Helen Kempton's](#) reflections on contemporary disposable fashion, viewed through the prism of Australian World War II home sewing practices)—to name just a few.

In this subject, students are encouraged to experiment beyond the traditional academic essay format, and to try their hand at utilising a variety of media for different "real-world" audiences. The result was an impressive diversity of imaginative and exciting projects, including video documentaries, websites, podcasts, twitter feeds, magazine articles, comic books, memes, and teaching materials, as well as academic essays. Much of the work was remarkably polished and mature. The full program for the final conference, including links to online projects (a selection of which were also displayed in the [Arts West Digital Studio](#) in October), is available as a [pdf](#), and more on the subject can be found in the [2019 Handbook](#).

The capstone teaching team was led by Professor David Goodman, together with Professor Mark Edele and Dr Julie Fedor, and supported by a group of experienced and dedicated tutors: Joel Barnes, Sarah Craze, Nicole Davis, and Roly Wettenhall.

Read some of the students' reflections on their learning experiences in this subject below.

"By picking the Histories in Public group, I was able to experience a style of history which placed emphasis on the role of the historian as a facilitator, storyteller, and guide through the past. I learnt to put readability and engagement before academic approval ... the only limit is your own creativity and intuition. People will partake in historical conversations which directly connect with their lives. And when you listen to them, they will give you more than you could ever know."—Jessica O'Loghlen

"I've lost count of the number of times that I've been asked, what are you going to do when you finish your degree? ... My lightbulb moment developed across the thirteen weeks of the subject, not in a sudden flash, but like an energy saving globe, it gradually illuminated, coming to full glow during the final conference presentations of student work. Every project and every presenter brought a new, different and valuable voice to history. I learned that not only is history about a multitude of voices, but it is also about a multitude of ways to communicate those voices. I now know what to do with my History major: to tell the stories of history in new innovative ways."—Christine Latham

"More subjects at university need to be taught like Making History, encouraging academic creativity through freedom. An opening conference exposing the plethora of project options made students feel excited about history. The opportunity to converse and collaborate with fellow students made the experience of an independent research project less daunting. A very engaging and encouraging subject that highlights the pursuit of further studies because students are passionate about supplementary learning."—Abbey Vlahov

"Prior to completing Making History, I tended to think of my choice to select history as my major as one that was completely motivated by a personal passion of mine, which I enjoyed every minute of, but which I occasionally felt lacked somewhat in practical relevance to my life. The change in this perspective, above all, is what I gained from this subject; Making History provided a journey of realisation about the significance of the study of History and the ongoing impact the past has on our lives."—Alexandra Watson

"From what started as a superficial interest in the 'fun parts' of history has led to the point where I am able to see the value in all parts of the discipline, as they give context to quite literally everything in the world. Whatever 'learning journey' I have been on has taken me from a place of cynicism and quiet regret to something akin to excitement."—Jakob Bradbeer

Student examining rare books from the Baillieu Special Collections in the Object Based Learning Laboratory.

"I doubt there has been a subject that has made me question what I was writing as much as this one. The research assignment had definitely pushed me to the edge of my comfort zone in terms of writing an essay but I can definitely now say that there was no other assignment where I had so strong a voice of my own."—Shannon Park

Nicole Davis
PhD candidate

Object-Based Learning

Hansen staff **Jenny Spinks, Una McIlvenna** and **Kat Ellinghaus** continued integrating Object-Based Learning into their classrooms this past year and are currently writing up an article on this innovative pedagogical approach.

In her new 3rd year subject "Crime, Punishment & Media in Europe 1500-1800", Una McIlvenna brought her class to the Special Collections in the Baillieu Library where they were shown some of the treasures there, including 16th-century German woodcuts of public execution scenes, 18th-century Hogarth satirical prints depicting the dissection of criminal corpses, and the recently uncovered volume of Popish Plot pamphlets from the 17th century. Una was even able to sing some of the ballads stuck in the back of the book!

In their co-taught subject "A History of Violence", Jenny Spinks and Kat Ellinghaus had an "object of the week" for students to discuss in every week of the course, and held a session getting up-close with rare books and prints c. 1500-1900 depicting violence in the Arts West Object Based Learning Lab. From scenes of Judith cutting off the head off Holofernes to war atrocities, students led discussions



debating why people might have owned and valued these objects depicting, memorialising and sometimes glorifying violence.

In “The Long History of Globalisation” History Honours subject, students continued to work intensively with material culture, and for one assignment curated virtual exhibitions tackling different aspects of globalisation in an historical context. The exhibition task stepped from the virtual to the real world in 2018. **Jeremy Teow**, who had completed the assignment with Jenny Spinks in 2017, worked in a longer timeframe under the mentorship of 2018 Arts West Object Based Learning staff **Fiona Moore** and **Jenny Long** to turn it into a real display on tea, trade, and histories of global injustice. The display included books, prints, ceramics and even a carefully preserved sugar cube! Two more recent students will take up this opportunity in 2019, forging fresh links with our most recent alumni, so keep an eye out for new displays in Arts West in semester two.

Surveys were conducted of the students’ responses to their introduction to objects as a primary source and the results were overwhelmingly positive. The Hansen team want to thank the outgoing OBL specialist **Fiona Moore** and the staff of the **Baillieu Library** and the **University of Melbourne Archives**, and are looking forward to more OBL activities this coming year.

Una McIlvenna

Historical Role-Play

Hansen staff are also contributing to teaching developments involving role-play. **Una McIlvenna** and **Kate McGregor** introduced a new second-year subject called “Reacting to the Past”, an innovative style of teaching involving historical role-playing games. In the games (one on India post-World War II and one on the English Reformation) students “become” the historical figures they are studying, whether that be Gandhi or Thomas Cromwell.

The subject drew rave reviews from students, who called it “the best subject of my undergraduate degree thus far” and said “the whole concept is just amazing”. They particularly loved “the way in which the classes fostered the formation of friendships within the group”.

Jenny Spinks introduced her new second-year subject on “Witch-Hunting in European Societies” in 2018. A highlight of the course was a week on the notorious 1692 witch trials in Salem, New England. Students researched the roles of various figures on the community—from accused witches to hardline pastors—and then role-played their responses, exploring motivations and community dynamics in a chaotic period in which accusations often trumped evidence. This aspect of the course was developed with thanks to a Teaching & Learning grant led by **Professor Ara Keys**. A short video about the subject will soon be used as one of a number of ways to engage high school students with history teaching at the University of Melbourne.

Una McIlvenna

Exploring World War One through Objects and Documents from the University of Melbourne Archives

The University of Melbourne Archives [hold a rich collection of documents related to World War One](#). The collection illuminates the history of the war from a diverse range of perspectives. Personal diaries, letters, photographs, souvenirs collected at the front, embroidered objects sent to loved ones—these objects offer insights into how the war was experienced by a range of actors, from soldiers to fund-raisers, from nurses to engineers.

In 2018, this collection was put to use in new ways, by undergraduate students taking the first-year History subject “Great War”. In a new set of assessment tasks designed by **Julie Fedor** (History, SHAPS) and **Katie Wood** (University Archives), each student “adopted” an individual from the University’s World War One collection. Across the semester, each student produced a series of pieces of writing exploring that individual’s experience from different angles.

Learning to handle and interpret archival documents is an important rite of passage for the historian in training. In *The Art of Time Travel: Historians and Their Craft* (Black Inc. 2016), Tom Griffiths reflects on the importance of the archive: “One of the primary launch pads for the historian’s time travel is the archive. The act of pilgrimage to a repository... [is] where the magic begins... Even in the age of the internet the archive remains a defining site where historians know who they are and what they do. Our students must be weaned from the screen and propelled into these enchanted places.”

The “Great War” History subject was aimed at introducing first-year students to the challenges and delights of archival work. It would be too much to expect first-year students to carry out fully-fledged archival work. In order to offer them a gentle



Vera Scantlebury Brown, a graduate of the University’s medical school who went on to serve as an assistant surgeon at a military hospital in London during the war, and whose papers are held in the University of Melbourne Archives.

introduction to the world of the archive, we provided students with a selection of digitized archival documents. High-resolution digitization technology helps to overcome some of the difficulties involved in deciphering handwritten documents—students can zoom in for a closer look, without damaging the document.

Most of the Great War students will not end up working as historians in their professional lives, but the skills they acquire in this subject also have much broader applicability. [A recent study by the Stanford History Education Group](#) highlighted the power of historical documents as a teaching tool for building skills in judging the reliability of evidence and information.

In choosing to link each student up with a “real” individual from the past, our aim was to bring this history to life for the students in new ways. In their work, the students used aspects of their adopted individual’s experiences as a springboard for their research into the history of the war. For their first assignment, students produced a basic document analysis of a personal diary, letter, scrapbook, or photographic album. They were encouraged to do historical detective work in order to uncover more information about their adopted individual. This provided an opportunity to introduce the students to research tools and resources such as [Trove](#), and the [National Archives of Australia’s collection of digitized military service and repatriation records](#).

Some of the most enthusiastic students also took their first steps into the physical archive, visiting the Archives’ Reading Room to access additional records held on their adopted individual. Dedicated tutors, PhD candidates in History **Jimmy Yan** and **Xavier Fowler**, both of whom are pursuing research on World War One, provided expert advice to the students.

We were impressed by the creativity displayed by the students in their responses to the documents. A single [diary, belonging to Wilberforce Newton](#), elicited a strikingly diverse range of student interpretations. Some students discerned in the diary traces of rising Australian nationalist passions and shifting attitudes to empire and nation, manifested in tensions between Australian and British officers. Others used the diary to examine the pressures and trauma suffered by medical staff serving at the front, the use of humour as a coping mechanism, and the ways in which the impact of the war experience on the individual can be traced across the diary, as romantic ideas about war are shattered by reality. Others still highlighted the prevalence of notions of white racial superiority expressed in the diary; or the disconnect between the sheer ordinariness of the everyday experiences described in the diary and the mythologized versions of the war offered up in secondary school history textbooks.

From 2020, “Great War” will be run as a second-year History subject.

Julie Fedor & Katie Wood

Summer Intensive on the History of News

In January 2019 **Dr Una McIlvenna** participated in a summer intensive course run by the Faculty of Arts on “The History of News from Street Ballads to Social Media”. Hosted by **Dr Will Slauter** from Université Paris Diderot, and running over four days, the course provided an overview of important trends in the history of news over the last 500 years. Drawing examples from several European countries, the United Kingdom and the United States, the large group of participants discussed changes in the way news was produced, distributed and experienced by people. From handwritten newsletters and ballads sung on the street to printed newspapers and telegraphic dispatches; from coffeehouses and reading rooms to radio broadcasts and social media, the course revealed how changes in technology, politics, and culture have transformed the production and circulation of news.

Dr McIlvenna presented her research on ballads as an early form of news media, and was able to bring in a priceless bound volume of pamphlets, street literature and ballads from the 17th-century Popish Plot, recently uncovered in the Baillieu Library. **Jean McBain** presented material from her recent successful PhD thesis on early 18th-century debates around the “liberty of the press”. On the final day, the managing editor of *Guardian* Australia, **Dan Stinton**, along with **Prof. Andrew Dodd** from the Centre for Advancing Journalism discussed recurring debates about press freedom, access to information, the proper role of journalists, and the effects of news consumption on individuals and society. At a moment in which misinformation and “fake news” are matters of serious concern, this course on the history of news allowed attendees to better understand the stakes of recent changes in the media landscape.

Recent PhDs and MAs



Melissa Afentoulis

Melissa Afentoulis, “Migration from Limnos to Australia: Re-discovering Identity, Belonging and ‘Home’”

My doctoral dissertation is a case study of migrants coming to Australia in the period 1950s–’70s, from Limnos (otherwise known as Lemnos), an Aegean island of Greece. The thesis explores intergenerational migration experiences by interrogating emerging themes that arise in the oral histories of three different cohorts. The critical focus is on identity construction and belonging and the dynamics of return visits to the ancestral homeland. Specifically, the thesis explores the pattern of return visits by descendants of migrants, as a form of identity consolidation among the second-generation and highlights the fluidity and dynamism of identity creation and transformation.

I draw on original and extensive interviews conducted for this thesis and use references from various disciplines to focus on the framing of personal experiences and cross-generational themes including the significance and meaning of “home” and ancestral roots. These are considered in the context of evolving transnational relationships and the re-connection to those who have remained on the island. As the first scholarly research project about migration from this island, the thesis provides a unique exploration of multi-dimensional themes that connect “those who have left and those who stayed” and thus fills a distinct gap in Greek-Limnian migrant historiography.

I completed my first two degrees (BA Honours and BSW) at the University of Melbourne in the seventies and pursued several fulfilling careers for over thirty years during which period I

returned to complete other post-graduate studies. I found the PhD experience most rewarding, challenging and fulfilling. Thanks to my supervisors, Joy Damousi and Sara Wills, for their guidance and encouragement that helped me to consolidate my many years of learning in this unique environment towards the dedicated research focus. I will now explore publishing options so as to make my research accessible and of greater community value.

Rustam Alexander, “Homosexuality in the USSR (1956–82)”

My thesis investigates the history of debates on homosexuality in the Soviet Union under Khrushchev and Brezhnev. Drawing on a range of hitherto unexplored archival and other sources I demonstrate that there was a lively discussion on the subject among various Soviet experts during this period. The findings of my thesis challenge the conventional view, whereby homosexuality was an “unmentionable vice” and a topic unfit for discussions. As I demonstrate in my thesis, those who discussed homosexuality sought to define and explain it as well as establish their own methods of eradicating it. In important ways, this handling of the issue of homosexuality was specific to the Soviet context. The examination of these discussions will contribute to our knowledge about the oppression of homosexual men and women in the Soviet Union, providing insight into the roots of contemporary Russian homophobia and expanding our knowledge about Soviet history more broadly.

In researching my thesis, which I completed under the supervision of Dr Julie Fedor and Associate Professor Sean Scalmer, I made several trips to various Russian cities (Moscow, St-Petersburg, Nizhniy Novgorod, Yekaterinburg) as well as other countries (Ukraine, Belarus, Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia). As a result of these research trips, I accumulated a considerable resource base, consisting of bibliographic rarities on homosexuality published under Khrushchev and Brezhnev; semi-sequestered archives in Russia’s notorious Serbskii Institute; declassified KGB files and personal archives of Soviet sexologists who considered homosexuality as a disease and tried to treat it during this time.

I have published some parts of my thesis as books chapters and journal articles, which include: “Sex Education and the Depiction of Homosexuality under Khrushchev” in *The Palgrave Handbook of Women and Gender in Twentieth-Century Russia and the Soviet Union* edited by Melanie Ilic; “Soviet Legal and Criminological Debates on the Decriminalisation of Homosexuality (1965-1975)” in *Soviet and Post-Soviet Sexualities*, edited by Richard C. M. Mole; “Soviet Legal and Criminological Debates on the Decriminalization of Homosexuality (1965-75)” in *Slavic Review*. My latest article “New Light on the Prosecution of Homosexuals under Brezhnev”, will be published in May this year in the journal *Russian History*.



Sarah Craze

Najwa Belkziz, “The Politics of Memory and Transitional Justice in Morocco”

My doctoral research investigated four decades of human rights abuses in Morocco and the transitional justice mechanisms implemented by the governing regime between 1990 and 2015 to reckon with this violent legacy. My critical discourse analysis of the official and opposition narratives about the past found in truth commissions, commemoration projects, study programs and films shed light on the misuse of human rights mechanisms by polities for regime maintenance, judicial impunity and power legitimization. The study also informs themes of governance, kinship, gender and power structures in Morocco and in the broader context of the Middle East and North Africa.

Links to publications:

- Najwa Belkziz & C. R. Pennell, “[Family Loyalties and Oppression in Morocco and Libya](#),” *Journal of Mediterranean Studies* 26:2 (2017): 125–45;
- Najwa Belkziz, “[Education Reforms in Transitional Justice Contexts](#),” in Clara Ramírez-Barat & Martina Schulze (eds), *Transitional Justice and Education* (Göttingen, V&R unipress, 2018).

Sarah Craze, “A Historical Context for Somali Piracy and Its Suppression”

My project examined how the Somali piracy epidemic of 2008–12 connected to the long history of piracy. One of the core challenges was pulling all the multi-disciplinary research areas of piracy, Somalia, and then Somali piracy into a coherent historical narrative. It took six years of part-time work and balancing a couple of kids, but I consider its completion my proudest achievement to date. Everybody knows something about pirates (or thinks they do!) and I have really enjoyed disseminating my knowledge to undergraduate students, friends, and random people on the internet through my [somalipiracy.net](#) website.



Emily Fitzgerald with her supervisor David Goodman.

My research project has produced four publications so far, with the latest an examination of the role of armistice and prize courts in the 20th century. It will be published in the *Journal of International Maritime History* in February and originally stemmed from a throwaway comment my supervisor, Richard Pennell made on one of my chapters. At the present time, I am working on a journal article on the notorious 19th century pirate Benito de Soto and preparing my thesis for potential publication as a book.

More information about my work is available on [my LinkedIn profile](#).

Emily Fitzgerald, “That Great Country To Which We Must Constantly Look’: Australia and the United States in the Development of Australian Federation”

My thesis examined the influence of the United States on the development of the Australian Constitution in the 1890s. Drawing predominantly on the transcripts of the Australian Constitutional Conventions, I explored why those creating the Australian Constitution chose to look towards the United States Constitution as model, the knowledge they had of the US Constitution and how it had been used and developed through US history, and the way they looked to the American example on issues beyond the basic federal structure. In addition, I was able to search through digitised US newspapers to develop an archive demonstrating interest in the development of Australian federation within the United States.

I was fortunate in having Professor David Goodman and Associate Professor Sean Scalmer as my supervisors across my very long candidature. I was also lucky enough to be able to travel to Washington DC for an extended period, undertaking a Junior Fellows Summer Internship at the Library of Congress, and then doing further research at the US National Archives in College Park examining consular records, and the AP Archive in New York.



Joy Damousi and Xavier Fowler

Xavier Fowler, “Sport and the Australian War Effort during the First World War: Concord and Conflict”

This project investigated sport and its relationship with the Australian war effort between 1914 and 1918. Through propaganda, recruitment, fund-raising, sporting competitions, education and gender relations, patriots sought to hone sport’s powerful influence in order to aid in the defence of Empire. Australia therefore celebrated sport, for it encouraged its citizens to “Play the Greater Game!”

Yet sport possessed the ability to divide with as great a strength as it did to unite, becoming embroiled in the social turmoil that engulfed the nation after 1915. Bitter public debates surrounding the appropriateness of games, violent altercations between recruiters and war-weary crowds and the eventual government intervention against sport in 1917 speak to this conflict. With this division in mind, the nation also began to reconsider for the first time the place and role of sport in its society. When viewing these parallel developments, we can decipher that sport had an altogether paradoxical and complicated relationship with Australia’s war.

My time spent studying, researching and writing during my candidacy at the University of Melbourne was a challenging, at times exhausting, but ultimately rewarding experience. However, there is no doubt in my mind that I could not have completed my thesis without the kind support of my supervisors Professor Joy Damousi and Associate Professor Sean Scalmer, the staff in SHAPS and my fellow PhD candidates. I now spend my time tutoring at several universities and hope to one day secure a permanent lecturing position, find a publisher for my thesis, and with any luck find a post-doctoral fellowship.

Xavier has a chapter in the works for a publication comprised of a selection of papers presented at the *Canterbury 100: Reflections on the Commemoration of World War One* conference late last year (to be published with Massey University Press). The chapter is titled “‘The First Time He Truly Felt Australian’: Anzac Day Sport and Australian Nationalism, 1995–Today”.



David Henry

David Henry, “Creating Space to Listen: Museums, Participation and Intercultural Dialogue”

My thesis (supervised by A/Prof. Sara Wills, A/Prof. Chris Healy, and Prof. Tony Birch) examined the emergence, practice, and social meaning of intercultural dialogue as participatory practice in museums. I based my research on a project I worked on at Melbourne’s Immigration Museum called “Talking Difference”, which invited participants to record video questions and answers in response to one another on the topics of identity, cultural diversity and racism. I asked how dialogue projects like “Talking Difference” alter the governmental role of museums, and how museums might better facilitate dialogue about these crucial and challenging topics. Drawing primarily on qualitative analysis of digital media, I argued that since museums cannot provide neutral forums for dialogue, they should actively promote social justice by curating the content of these projects, presenting affecting personal accounts alongside an understanding of their social and historical contexts.

My research took me to the University of Leicester as a Visiting Scholar at its School of Museum Studies where I had the good fortune to work under the mentorship of some of the field’s most critical and engaging scholars. I also undertook research and attended conferences in the United States, Italy, and Argentina. I am now developing the research into a book proposal while continuing my professional practice in community development and engagement in a local government context.



Mia Martin Hobbs

Mia Martin Hobbs, “Nostalgia and the Warzone Home: Australian and American Veterans Return to Việt Nam, 1981–2016”

From 1981 to 2016, thousands of Australian and American veterans returned to Việt Nam. My dissertation was a comparative oral history investigation examining why veterans returned and how they reacted to the people and places of Việt Nam—their former enemies, allies, and battlefields—as the war receded further into history and memory. Under the supervision of Professor Ara Keys and Dr Julie Fedor, I conducted fieldwork across Australia, Việt Nam, and the US, interviewing over fifty veterans over the course of 18 months.

Tracing veterans’ returns through economic, cultural, and political shifts in Việt Nam, Australia, and the US, I located three distinct periods of return, which reflected the changing meanings of “Vietnam” in Australia and the US and described the relationship of veterans to the contemporary, peacetime space of Việt Nam. Very different narratives about the war informed Australian and American returns; Australians followed an Anzac tradition of battlefield pilgrimage, whereas for American the return constituted a radical, anti-war act. Despite these differences in timing and nationality of return, commonalities emerge among them: veterans returned out of nostalgia for a warzone home, responding to the “needs of the present” by turning back toward “Vietnam.”

When veterans arrived in Việt Nam, they found that their warzone home had been replaced with unfamiliar places, politics, and people. They faced conflicting challenges and rewards of return. Many reported that seeing Việt Nam at peace diluted their memories of war, and brought them a measure of relief. Yet this peacetime reality also disrupted their wartime connection to Vietnamese spaces. When veterans returned, they found that their warzone home was unrecognizable. Returnees navigated this challenge by drawing from the same wartime narratives that had shaped their desire to return. Consequently, anti-war and Anzac memories shaping how returnees interpreted and interacted with peacetime Việt Nam. Returnees recaptured their sense of



Mike Jones

belonging to the warzone home by relying on familiar stories about a suddenly unfamiliar place. Thus while the return experiences challenged returnees’ wartime memories, the return did not change their views so much as reinforce their existing perspectives. While returning to Việt Nam helped many veterans to put “Vietnam” behind them, there was not total separation between war and country. Furthermore, as the numbers of returnees rose and expatriate-veteran enclaves emerged, the wartime narratives through which veterans navigated the return took on greater impact, collapsing time through space through nostalgic practices to relocate the warzone home.

Mike Jones, “Documenting Artefacts and Archives in the Relational Museum”

My thesis is an interdisciplinary look at the history of computerisation in museums, the interconnectedness of archives and museum collections, and the ways in which collections-based knowledge is conceptualised, captured, and managed by large institutions. Drawing on archival research, site visits, interviews, and a range of historical and theoretical sources, my research reveals that collections documentation does not adequately reflect contemporary ideas about museums and collections. Providing a foundation for practical change, I argue that museums (and other cultural heritage institutions) need to develop more complex, relational approaches to better capture collections-based knowledge for current and future users.

In researching and writing my thesis I was supported by the McCoy Scholarship, the generosity of staff at Museums Victoria (my primary case study), and an interdisciplinary team of supervisors: Kate Darian-Smith, Gavan McCarthy, and Richard Gillespie. The McCoy Scholarship also provides funding for travel and equipment, which allowed me to travel to the United States and United Kingdom to meet with staff at comparative institutions. I had the opportunity to publish and present on my work in Australia and internationally during the course of my research. For details, see <http://www.mikejonesonline.com/>.



James Lesh

Max Kaiser, “Between Nationalism and Assimilation: Jewish Antifascism in Australia in the Late 1940s and Early 1950s”

My thesis argues that Jewish antifascism was a major political and cultural force in Australian Jewish communities in the 1940s and early 1950s. It charts the emergence of a non-nationalist and anti-assimilationist Australian Jewish antifascist political subjectivity, and examines its ideological basis, cultural and political practice, and the circumstances of the rapid demise of its hegemony. Drawing on a range of archival sources, such as newspaper articles, magazines, pamphlets and creative works, this thesis paints an intellectual and cultural portrait of the vibrant Australian world of Jewish antifascism, and consequently uncovers a previously obscured history of radical Jewish thought in Australia.

It was a great privilege to work with Associate Professor Sara Wills and Dr Jordana Silverstein on this project. I’m looking forward to a number of publications coming out of my research in the next couple of years.

James Lesh, “At the Intersection of Heritage Preservation, Urban Transformation, and Everyday Life in the Twentieth-century Australian City”

Commencing in 2015, I submitted my PhD thesis in 2018. I was supervised by Professor Andrew May and my associate supervisor was Professor Kate Darian-Smith. The thesis offers a fresh global urban history of the Australian city, its heritage places, and the preservationists who shaped those places. I investigated the history of heritage protection in Australian cities and its interrelationship with urban planning and development, in the context of developing global regimes of heritage. I particularly identified the 1960s–1980s as a watershed period producing an Australian conception for heritage as progressive, democratic, interventionist and integrated.

A highlight of my time at SHAPS has been my membership of the [Melbourne History Workshop](#), a studio-based research collaboratory in the History Program directed by Professor Andrew May. Specific



Iain McIntyre

projects which I have been involved with include the [My Marvellous Melbourne podcast](#) and a 2017 exhibition at the City Gallery called “City Songs” on “Block V” of the Melbourne CBD (as numbered by surveyor Robert Hoddle in 1837). The “City Songs” exhibition was a collaboration with the City of Melbourne and its 2016 artists-in-residence, author Christos Tsiolkas and photographer Zoe Ali. For the final year of my PhD candidature, I was based in the “Digital Chamber” of the Digital Studio in Arts West, representing the Melbourne History Workshop and immersing myself in the Digital Studio’s day-to-day activities. I have been grateful for the opportunity to integrate these kinds of creative and community projects into my research practice.

Iain McIntyre, “Tree-Sits, Barricades and Lock-Ons: Obstructive Direct Action and the History of the Environmental Movement, 1979–90”

During the 1980s the protection of biodiverse places became a major global issue, one whose importance would grow in the decades to come. In part this resulted from efforts by Indigenous people in a variety of countries to protect and reclaim territories that had come under the ownership and exploitation of others via colonial dispossession. Challenges to dominant practices also came from non-Indigenous conservationists, alternative “back-to-the-land” communities and others who had settled in rural areas and formed deep connections to land. Contention regarding resource extraction and development activities reflected and fed into a widening ecological consciousness, as broader communities turned their attention to the plight of forests, rivers and other places within their own countries as well as overseas.

A significant part of what captured and shifted public awareness was a series of environmental blockades that were launched from the 1970s onwards. These events combined the use of Obstructive Direct Action (ODA) with protest camps to disrupt logging, clearing, mining and other activities. In providing a national and comparative history of campaigns in Australia, the US and Canada, my thesis examines how the environmental blockading repertoire was initially developed and embedded in each country. It establishes that through sustained, close and intense levels of protest within biodiverse environments activists created a tactical “toolkit” that was eventually diffused globally to a variety of movements.



Toby Nash

The supervision of Associate Professors Sean Scalmer and Sara Willis played a vital role in supporting me throughout the research and writing stages. Interviews with more than 30 activists shaped the thesis and formed the basis of a radio series that was broadcast on Community Radio 3CR over the summer of 2018–2019.

Toby Nash, “At Water’s Edge: Empire, Disorder, and Commerce on the Waterfronts in British American Port-Cities, 1714–74” (MA thesis)

My Master’s thesis looked at colonial commercial and shipping operations in British America. Focusing on the urban waterfront sector in Britain’s port-cities in the Caribbean and North America, noting this region functioned as the primary point for the orderly extraction of wealth from colonies. The thesis argues that the waterfront, lying at a liminal intersection between the city and the sea, between urban history and maritime history, had a crucial role to play in British imperial conduct. The essential economic function of the waterfront as a point for the movement of shipping, offloading, warehousing, and wholesaling necessitated effective administration and governance by the state. But insecure imperial control over wharfside flows of commodities, people, and the environment, created difficulties for the British state.

By examining this area in terms of space and place, we find a funnel or “bottleneck” with competing vested economic interests and significant environmental instability, which could hinder imperial processes. Examining the docks in high-traffic port-cities across the British Atlantic coast, the thesis provides a microcosmic framework for viewing the insecurity and instability that plagued the eighteenth-century British Empire in its growing colonial cities. Delving into this small quarter of the city enlightens us as to how disruptions at the colonial waterfront could cause disruption to the Empire, allowing us to gain a larger understanding of the British state apparatus and its administrative and commercial difficulties and vulnerabilities.

Sonia Randhawa, “Writing Women: The Women’s Pages of the Malay-language Press, 1987–98”

My thesis investigates depictions of Malay-Muslim women in two Malay-language newspapers, contrasting the portrayals on the women’s pages with how women were depicted on the “malestream” leader and religion pages. Using a combination of oral histories with 21 women journalists who worked in various sections of the papers, and content analysis of around 8,000 articles, I wanted to know how the women’s pages contributed to changes in the hegemonic construction of women in the authoritarian state of Malaysia between 1987 and 1998. By examining how the women journalists in the women’s page shaped news and news values in Malay-language newspaper newsrooms, the thesis contrasts the construction of the “Malay-Muslim woman” in the women’s pages with the hegemonic construction by the ruling party and in the leader and religion pages. The forthcoming book of the same name will be published by SIRD, Malaysia this year.

One of the fortuitous things about my thesis is that the two men in power in Malaysia during the period I examined (Mahathir Mohamad as Prime Minister, Anwar Ibrahim as Deputy Prime Minister, then; “Prime-Minister-in-waiting” now), are in power once more. It will be interesting to see, in both their treatment of the media and of women, how much and how little has changed in the intervening three decades.



Three “friends” who orchestrated a State crackdown on political activists in 1987. Current “Prime-Minister-in-Waiting” Anwar Ibrahim, former Prime Minister Najib Razak, and current Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad. Image by Fahmi Reza @kuasiswa

News from our Recent Graduates and Other Alumni

Former History Honours student **Jack Armstrong** is now working as Assistant Adviser to the Minister for Education Dan Tehan.

Jack writes, “This built on my work for Senator Jane Hume during my Honours year, where I (occasionally unsuccessfully) juggled study and part-time work as an electoral officer. Nonetheless, this work has been enjoyable as it has been varied. From writing speeches and policy briefs, to lobbying cross-benchers on legislation in Canberra, staffing has quickly seen me do many interesting things.

History has been good preparation for politics. With an analytical emphasis on people, history illuminates present policy challenges by allowing historical analogues to be drawn. It can explain why certain events happened the way did and why people have either succeeded or failed.

The trick, I think, is to study history that offers these lessons. My thesis, for example, explored the role of Allen Dulles, the Director of the CIA, in organising the 1953 coup in Iran and how he (clumsily) negotiated a recalcitrant State Department. The thesis, therefore shed insight into how someone may or may not influence policy within a political and bureaucratic setting. For this reason, I'd highly recommend history to any person considering a life in politics.”



Isabella Borshoff



Kate Duggan

Former History Honours student **Isabella Borshoff** is now studying for a Master in Public Policy at Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government. Isabella wrote her History Honours thesis on the Carter Administration and its struggle to devise a Human Rights foreign policy, supervised by Prof. Ara Keys. Even before completing her Honours degree, Isabella was awarded the position of a Graduate Policy Officer at the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet for 2016.

Dr Liam Byrne, who earned his PhD in 2017, is now the National Activist Organiser at the Australian Council of Trade Unions, working with community volunteers and activists as part of the “Change the Rules” campaign.

Former Honours student **Kate Duggan** reflects on the challenges of combining Honours in History with competing in the Australian National Championships in rowing:



Dr Liam Byrne

“Let's dive in... I was only ten when my parents threw caution to the winds and quit their jobs, removed my sister and I from school and promptly set out on a five month European ‘Ódyssey’. It was a time of wonder. We trawled ancient ruins, stood in chapels spellbound by “relics” (including a hair from Christ's head) and marvelled at the living history before us. My first passion was born. Three years later, at a ‘Learn to Row day’ at Albert Park Lake, my second began.

Of course, when I hit Melbourne University on an Elite Athlete Scholarship, I made sure history was the focus of my BA studies. The combination of study and the intense physical discipline demanded by early mornings on the water sharpened my focus and organisational abilities and led me to seek excellence. As an athlete you build competencies, you train hard, you race to the end—such skills were honed during my history degree and led to me living and studying in a Venetian palazzo in my third year.

My honours year saw highlights unfold on both the history and rowing fronts. Granted the opportunity to research my thesis topic and essentially live as a historian, I revelled in the camaraderie and sense of professionalism surrounding me. Crossing the finish line at the Australian National Championships and graduating, that piece of official paper sitting hot in my hand, remain moments of triumph that will stay imprinted in my mind forever.”

Dr Bronwyn Lowe recently started a new role as Academic and Student Support Advisor at St Hilda's College, after being resident History tutor there for four years. The role involves assisting students with their academic program, providing pastoral care, and organising wellbeing activities. Bron also organised a "Get Ready for University" Day for the college's 100 first-year students.

Bron writes, "This full-time role is certainly a big change from casual lecturing and unpaid research, which I had been doing for the last few years after graduating with my PhD in 2015. Having the chance to see students every day, I'm really enjoying the chance to develop closer collegial relationships with them. I've particularly enjoyed discussing study skills and also options for career paths with individual students. I really believe in the transformative potential of tertiary education, so I'm loving the chance to help students make the most of their time at university."

Dr Xavier Ma has been awarded a postdoctoral fellowship at the Department of the History of Science, Tsinghua University, Beijing.

Dr Deborah Mayersen has been appointed as a Lecturer in International and Political Studies at the University of New South Wales Canberra, at the Australian Defence Force Academy. After completing her PhD in History at the University of Melbourne



Dr Deborah Mayersen

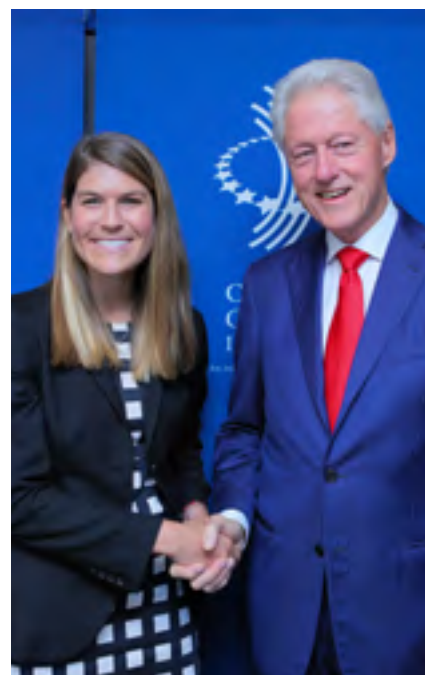


Dr Tyson Retz

in 2007, Deborah has had postdoctoral research fellowships at the University of Queensland and the University of Wollongong. Her publications include *On the Path to Genocide: Armenia and Rwanda Reexamined* (Berghahn Books, 2014), and the edited volumes *A Cultural History of Genocide in the Modern World* (Bloomsbury, in-press), *The United Nations and Genocide* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2016) and *Genocide and Mass Atrocities in Asia: Legacies and Prevention* (with Annie Pohlman, Routledge, 2013).

Dr Tyson Retz (PhD in History 2016) has been appointed as Associate Professor in the Department of Cultural Studies and Languages in the Faculty of Arts and Education at the University of Stavanger, Norway. He is teaching courses in history didactics and modern European history while continuing his research on French historical thought from the Enlightenment to the establishment of the Third Republic. Dr Retz was a SHAPS Gilbert Fellow in 2017.

Former History Honours student **Jeremy Teow** is currently pursuing a PhD at Princeton University.



Alyssa Trometter with President Bill Clinton. Photo credit: Clinton Foundation

Dr Alyssa Trometter, who earned her PhD in History at Melbourne in 2014, is now Deputy Director of External Affairs at the Clinton Foundation based in New York City. She joined the Clinton Foundation in 2015 as the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation and American Council of Learned Societies postdoctoral fellow.

Alyssa's PhD project, supervised by Assoc. Prof. Sean Scalmer and Prof. David Goodman, examined the Aboriginal Black Power movement and the Australian Black Panther Party. In her role at the Clinton Foundation, Alyssa manages the Clinton Global Initiative University's outreach, selection, and engagement activities. She works together with academic partners at universities and colleges worldwide with the aim of supporting student entrepreneurship and social impact. For more information, see: www.cgju.org.

SHAPS Fellows & Associates Group News

The School of Historical and Philosophical Studies Fellows & Associates Group enjoyed another successful year in 2018 in which we welcomed **Elizabeth Hartrick** and **Tony Ward** to the Convening Group. Both have taken on responsibilities for the efficient running of the monthly seminars. **Susan Foley**, who was convenor for 2013 and joined the Convening Group in 2015, stepped down from the group after contributing so much to the running of our annual program of events. Her generosity and wisdom in fulfilling such a demanding role was acknowledged by the Group.

Our monthly seminar series commenced in January 2018 with **Mary Sheehan's** paper on the Spanish Flu in Melbourne. This paper attracted a record number of attendees from the 50 or more who subscribe to our email list. Subjects for the year included a reconsideration of Australian Catholicism, aspects of French history, nineteenth century migration to the colony by an architect and a surveyor and writing a contemporary history of this university.

One of the features of the Fellows' & Associates Group remains the Annual Research Day. In 2018 the Fellows' Group enjoyed its twelfth Annual Research Day where the program ranged from images of patriarchs and patrons in Renaissance Florence to French myths-making through letters and archives; shedding new light on the 1916 Victorian campaign for conscription; a spotlight on a significant Australian political crisis concerning Lionel Murphy; and remembering the year 1968 through recent French research, and the personal experience of a local priest to the papal encyclical on birth control. A panel of professional historians presented a "state of the nation" on history in the community.

Fellows and Associates continue to publish books, chapters of books, journal articles, book reviews and entries in the Australian and international dictionaries of biography. We also publish essays on web sites such as *The Conversation* and *Australian Policy and History* and comment on various platforms of social media. In 2018, Fellows & Associates published more than 37 works, with two of the group claiming four publications each and one author with five publications.

The Fellows' Group's aims to award two prizes each year—the Prue Torney Prize and the History Essay Prize. They remain a focus for our fund-raising efforts. Each prize is valued at \$500. In 2018 the Fellows Essay Prize was awarded to **James Lesh** and **Mia Martin Hobbs** who each received \$250. However, submissions for the Prue Torney Prize were not forthcoming so this Prize was not awarded.

The Group looks forward to another stimulating year ahead and welcomes SHAPS Fellows to the forthcoming monthly seminar and annual research day.

Fay Woodhouse
22 January 2019

Postgraduate Student Prizes



Please note that some prizes nominated in 2017 were only finalised in 2018, and others are still in process of finalisation. The list below is therefore not comprehensive but is the latest listing available.

2017 Dennis-Wettenhall Prize: Liam Byrne

Liam was awarded the prize for his PhD thesis, “Defining Labor: A Study of the Political Culture of the Victorian Labor Party, 1901–1921”. The thesis analyzed the political culture of the party during that period with a view to better understanding how its members lived and experienced that party. It argued that creative contestation between the party’s socialist and moderate factions was central to its lively intellectual culture, a stark contrast to the party today.



2017 Wyselaskie Scholarship for History: Samuel Watts

Sam Watts is writing a history of African American daily life in Reconstruction-era Charleston and New Orleans. He writes, “I’m fascinated by the social, cultural and material consequences of the destruction of slavery for the lived experience of black and white Southerners. In my work, I look at how formerly enslaved people interpreted freedom in an everyday sense; through dress, speech, gesture and movement within the city space. Focusing on two cities, I investigate how in the face of extreme prejudice and often brutal violence, formerly enslaved people took advantage of new opportunities, unique to this era, and built strong urban communities, networks and identities.”



2018 Caroline Kay’s Scholarship for History: Jimmy Yan

This scholarship is awarded biennially to a first-year graduate researcher in History who achieved the highest weighted average honours year mark in the prior year.

Jimmy Yan won this award for his Honours thesis, which was supervised by Professor Gillian Russell and examined the internationalist imaginary of James Connolly in the Great War, through a close reading of the Irish labour press in 1914-16.

Jimmy Yan is currently writing a PhD on the connections between the Irish revolutionary period and Australian political activism in 1913–23. He is working under the supervision of Assoc. Prof. Sean Scalmer and Prof. Joy Damousi.



Mia Martin Hobbs

James Lesh



Nathan Gardner and Beth Marsden

2018 SHAPS Fellows' Group Annual History Essay Prize: Mia Martin Hobbs and James Lesh

Mia Martin Hobbs was awarded the prize for her article “‘We Went and Did an Anzac Job’: Memory, Myth, and the Anzac Digger in Vietnam”, published in the *Australian Journal of Politics and History*. The article, based on qualitative interviews conducted with veterans, is an oral history exploring how Vietnam veterans’ personal memories of war are modified into tropes, creating a collective identity of victimhood. The author argues that together, these tropes constitute a “cultural script” that retells the story of Anzac in Vietnam.

James Lesh was awarded the prize for his 1970s–‘80s comparative urban history of Melbourne’s Rialto Towers, Perth’s Bond / R&I Tower and Sydney’s MLC Centre. His article proposes a new mode of postmodern skyscraper construction in which new and old, soaring tower and historic heritage, could be seemingly seamlessly integrated—in the context of the fading Australian heritage movement. The article appeared in the *US Journal of Urban History*.

2018 Lloyd Robson Memorial Award: Nathan Gardner and Beth Marsden

The Lloyd Robson Memorial Award is awarded annually to a Graduate Research student of Australian history to support them in undertaking research interstate. It was established in 1984 by Rosemary Kiss in memory of her late husband, Lloyd Robson. Dr Robson joined the University’s Department of History as a lecturer in 1964, retired as a reader in History in 1988, and remained an active associate of the department until his death in August 1990. His contribution to Australian history in the department was outstanding and, through his own seminal research and publications, he stood at the forefront of promoting Australian history nationally as a significant arena of scholarly inquiry.

The award will enable Beth Marsden to travel to access the National Archives held in Darwin and Canberra for her research on the experiences of Indigenous students attending school in Victoria in the 1950s and 1960s.

Beth writes, “by examining records held in Darwin and Canberra, I hope to uncover the interplay between state and federal

governments and to create new ways to understand how Indigenous children who moved from the Northern Territory to Victoria for education experienced this transition and subsequent school and education. I anticipate that this will be pivotal to the development of my thesis, as the networks of mobility across state boundaries is a new area of investigation that has the potential to create new understanding of the experience of school in the state of Victoria. Thank you to the committee, Rosemary Kiss and the family of Lloyd Robson for this award.”

The award will enable Nathan Gardner to travel to conduct interviews with representatives of Chinese-Australian community organisations in capital cities across Australia. Nathan also sends his thanks to Rosemary Kiss and the family of Lloyd Robson:

“The Lloyd Robson Memorial Award is an incredible gift to my research. In keeping with the memory of Lloyd Robson, I hope that my study will be a worthwhile offering to the study of Australian history—bringing the often-sidelined perspectives of Chinese-Australian communities to the forefront of historical discussion.”



Mia Martin Hobbs



Hannah Loney



Iain McIntyre



Lauren Pikó

2018 Gilbert Postdoctoral Career Development Fellowships: Mia Martin Hobbs, Hannah Loney, Iain McIntyre, Lauren Pikó

Mia Martin Hobbs: “I was fortunate to receive the Gilbert Fellowship just as I was awarded my PhD, which allowed me to continue my writing over the summer under the mentorship of **Professor Ara Keys**. I have been working on an article about the phenomenon on veterans returning to Việt Nam on ‘healing journeys’. This article is an offshoot of my dissertation research, in which I trace the changes in veterans’ returns alongside shifting understandings of trauma and healing in American culture. I also developed a book proposal for a monograph based on my dissertation and, fingers crossed, will soon be submitting a book manuscript.”

Hannah Loney will use the Fellowship to support several writing projects, including a book that she is co-editing on *Gender, Violence and Power: Indonesia across Time and Space* with **Kate McGregor** and **Ana Dragojlovic**, as well as a book chapter on gender, trauma and suffering in post-conflict Timor-Leste. In addition, the Fellowship will support the development of Hannah’s 2020 application for an ARC DECRA project titled “Reproducing the Modern Family: The Local Dynamics of Family Planning in New Order Indonesia (1970–98)”. This project seeks to shed light on the global politics of reproduction by exploring a key period when approaches to family planning and population management were being transformed: the decades following World War II in the Global South. Specifically, the project will examine the Indonesian national family program, which was a major social initiative of President Suharto’s New Order regime. Beginning in 1970, family planning was a cornerstone of the Indonesian government’s vision for modern families, subjects, and bodies as a means to shape national social and economic development.

Iain McIntyre is currently working on developing his recent PhD thesis, “Tree-Sits, Barricades and Lock-Ons: Obstructive Direct Action and the History of the Environmental Movement, 1979-1990” into a book and related article. These publications and postdoctoral research will focus on the innovation and diffusion of tactics and strategies within environmental and other social movements, as well as their impact upon public opinion, government policy, policing and other areas.

Lauren Pikó will use the fellowship to pursue a number of writing projects emerging out of her PhD and first monograph, including a journal article on the comparative media histories of Canberra and Milton Keynes, a journal article on the interpretation of J. B. Priestley’s writing in 1980s Britain, and several conference papers and invited writing projects on the cultural politics of ideal landscapes.

These projects contribute in turn to the development of a proposed 2021 application for an ARC DECRA.



Hansen Trust PhD Scholar commencing 2019: Bronwyn Beech Jones

The Hansen Trust scholarship will support Bronwyn's research project entitled "Bangsa Perempoean/Bangsa Melajoe: Women's Identities, Education, and Communitality in Sumatra (1908–1928)."

Bronwyn describes her research:

"I am interested in how newspapers crafted understandings of gender and ethnicity, as well as a forum to connect women in different regions of Sumatra, and how these identities formed the basis of community-run girls' schools and networks.

"I wish to express my gratitude for this scholarship. Learning and teaching history cultivates critical curiosity, humility, and respectfulness. The Hansen Trust PhD Scholarship will allow me to continue and expand my work to promote and encourage history in Australia and Indonesia. I wish to focus on projects to strengthen ties between secondary and tertiary history teaching and learning, and equally to increase the accessibility of sources held in Australia for Indonesian students."

The Hansen Trust was established to support innovation and excellence in History at Melbourne and to provide students with an outstanding education: to forge pathways for successful careers and graduate opportunities; to underline the continuing relevance and importance of history; and to nurture and engage community passion for this important field of study.

Mike Jones won the [Best Paper Award](#) at the 26th annual Conference of the International Council of Museums' International Committee for Documentation (CIDOC 2018), in Heraklion, Crete. He won the award for his paper, "Collections in the Expanded Field: Relationality and the Provenance of Artefacts and Archives".

Jimmy Yan and **Nathan Gardner** were National Library of Australia Summer Scholars in 2019. Jimmy won the Seymour Summer Scholarship, and Nathan was a Norman McCann Summer Scholar.

Jimmy is examining long-distance connections between the global context of the Irish revolution and Australian social movements, including the labour movement. Positioned within an emerging transnational historiography of the Irish revolution, and coinciding with an ongoing "Decade of Centenaries" in Ireland, his project traces the circulation and translation of the "Irish Question" into Australian political contexts between 1912 and 1923. Drawing on the personal papers of Australian activists politicised around the Irish Question, Jimmy seeks to re-establish the contexts and connections that shaped Australian responses to Irish independence in the years before and after the Easter Rising.

Nathan Gardner's research is focused on the emergence of Pauline Hanson and One Nation, foregrounding the experiences and responses of Chinese-Australian community organisations. Using the NLA's extensive collection of community organisation pamphlets, newsletters, and oral histories recorded with Chinese-Australian community leaders throughout this period, the project documents the different strategies group used to engage with this issue and highlight their agency in the face of victimisation.

In 2018 **Shan Windscrip** was awarded an Arts Graduate Research International Grant, the Prue Torney Memorial Prize, and an AHA/Copyright Agency Postgraduate Conference Travel/Writing Bursary.

Shan writes, “I used the Prue Torney Memorial Prize and Arts Graduate Research International Grant for a research trip to China in October 2018. The year marked the 50th anniversary since Mao sent millions of city-based students down to the countryside to be ‘re-educated’ by poor peasants during the Cultural Revolution. Many of the students (‘educated youth’ or ‘zhiqing’) spent years in rural China before they could get back to the city, some stayed there for life. I used the grants to visit eight cities across China to attend ‘zhiqing’

reunions/commemorations, to interview Maoist diarists and to collect their diaries for completing one of the core chapters of my thesis.

But the highlight of that trip was my visit with my mother to a small mountain village in Pinglu County, Shanxi Province, where she lived and worked alongside the peasants 40 years ago as Mao’s educated youth (some photos attached). The area is part of the Loess Plateau Region, known for its ‘yellow soil’—the extremely fine particles of silt carried and sedimented by wind. Because here wood and rock are rare, people have been building ‘cave houses’ in the slope against a hill, or, in the walls of a big square ‘sunken yard’ dug in the ground. One day my mother insisted

on taking me to see the ‘cave house’ she once shared with her ‘zhiqing’ comrades. We walked miles only to find the dwelling hidden behind bushes and trees, and the cave houses long abandoned. But the rare moment of historical synchronicity delighted both of us.”

PhD Candidate **Beth Marsden** won one of the highly sought after AHA-Copyright Agency Travel and Writing Bursaries to attend the Australian Historical Association’s annual conference. The bursary covers travel costs and includes mentoring. Beth presented a paper on a round table entitled “The Spectrum of Indigenous Mobility”.



Peasants in front of a “red wall” painted by zhiqing members to commemorate their past.



Shan Windscrip

Undergraduate and Honours Prizes



**2017 Margaret Kiddle Prize /
2017 Jessie Mary Vasey Prize
for Best Women's History
Essay (4th Year):
Ilaria Bigaran**

The Jessie Mary Vasey Prize for Best Fourth-Year Essay in Women's History is supported by the War Widows' Guild of Australia and awarded to the 4th year Bachelor of Arts student with the best essay on women's history.

Ilaria's thesis examined the writings of three seventeenth-century English women and their contribution to the *ars moriendi*—a theological genre that sought to convey the proper way to die so as to ensure heavenly salvation, as opposed to eternal torment. Looking beyond the religious contents of these works, her research explored the interplay between women's writing and early modern publication, religious politics, gender, and emotion within these texts.

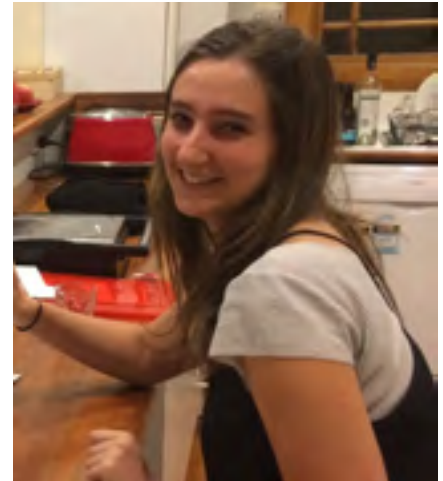
Ilaria writes, "Studying history at the University of Melbourne was a unique and amazing experience. Each lecture, tutorial discussion, and reading allowed me to engage in dialogue with the past, to critically analyse the evidence before me and to question the perspectives offered, both obvious and hidden. I was constantly inspired to look further, to read more, and to develop and refine my skills."



**2017 Brian Fitzpatrick Prize
for Best Honours Thesis
in Australian History:
Marcus Sevier**

"My thesis contested the received wisdom that the floating of the Australian dollar (1983) under the leadership of Bob Hawke and Paul Keating was a visionary decision. Instead, I argued that the government's hands were more or less forced by speculative pressure on the the dollar and the logic of democratic politics. I think reassessing the float can shed light on the nature of economic reform, and, more broadly, political leadership in Australia.

The honours year was a fantastic way to cap off my time at Melbourne University and was a fitting culmination to three years of undergraduate history courses. The small cohort, intense historical research, and the opportunity to develop strong relationships with academic staff made it the highlight of my four years in Melbourne."



**2017 Kathleen Fitzpatrick
Exhibition for Thesis in
Combined English and History:
Anna Richardson**

The Kathleen Fitzpatrick Exhibition is awarded to the best Bachelor of Arts honours student in a combined honours course in English and History at their final assessment.

Anna Richardson's thesis focused on Melbourne's Realist Film Association and its founder, Ken Coldicutt. It explored the organisation's relationship with the Communist Party of Australia and its surveillance by ASIO, looking to understand the role of Communism in Cold War cultural production and consumption in Australia.



2017 Dr Rodney Lloyd Benjamin OAM History Prize / 2017 Dwight Prize (History): Michael Matters

The Dr Rodney Lloyd Benjamin OAM History Prize is awarded for the best essay in Australian history by a student enrolled in a graduate degree in the faculty of Arts with preference given to essays that focus on aspects of the history of the state of Victoria. The Dwight Prize (History) is awarded at the final assessment in the course for the degree of Bachelor of Arts (degree with honours).

Mike says:

“My thesis examined Australia’s first women’s trade union, the Victoria Tailoresses’ Union, from its infamous strike in 1882 to its dissolution in 1907. I was interested in the working women who helped the broader labour movement accept the reality of prevailing technological and social conditions. It was a surprise and an honour to receive these prizes at the end of a wonderful year studying.”



2017 R. G. Wilson Scholarship for 3rd Year: Hamish Clark

The R. G. Wilson Scholarship for Third-Year History is awarded to the best student in a third-year History course.

Hamish Clark’s essay, “The Sweetness of the Revolution We Have Received’: Women’s Cold War Subjectivity in China and Japan” was published in September 2018 in the inaugural *Melbourne Undergraduate Arts Journal*.



2017 Exhibition for 1st Year History / 2017 Rosemary Merlo Prize for 1st Year: Georgia Ardley

Exhibition for 1st Year History is awarded to the best 1st year Bachelor of Arts History student.

The Rosemary Merlo Prize for 1st Year is awarded to a 1st year Bachelor of Arts student with the best essay submitted as part of the prescribed work for a history subject.

Georgia’s prize-winning essay “Polities, Economy and Community: How they Shaped Youth Movements of the 1960s and 1970s” explored and contrasted the relationships between student protest movements in response to political policies across the US, China, Russia and Brazil in the 1960s and 1970s. The 1960s witnessed the mobilisation of youths across the globe, who challenged policies, the legitimacy of their lawmakers and the traditional, conservative values that dominated their social lives. The stability and growing globalisation and consumerism across the world during the 1960s enabled young people to vocalise their dissent. However, the economic downturn and instability toward the late 1960s and through the 1970s witnessed youth movements lose

momentum and reflects the strength of conservatism and traditionalism during political turbulence. However, while these movements did not share a common goal or achieve their aims by the end of the 1970s, the essay emphasised the importance such youth movements had in shaping communities, discourses, policies and values which still persist today.

2017 Felix Raab Prize / 2017 Marion Boothby Exhibition: Jeremy Teow

Jeremy Teow was awarded the Felix Raab Prize, the Marion Boothby Exhibition, and the Arts Medal for 2017, as well as that year's Norman Harper Prize from the Australian and New Zealand American Studies Association. His prize-winning essay examined how, between 1791 and 1804, a diverse set of British commentators wrestled in different ways with the shifting intersections of race, slave agency, and the Haitian Revolution's insurrectionary violence.

The Felix Raab Prize is awarded for an essay written as part of the prescribed work in early modern European History. The Marion Boothby Exhibition is awarded to the student with the highest mark in the 1st, 2nd or 3rd year subjects in the field of British History.



2017 Rosemary Merlo Prize for 2nd Year: Claire Hannon

Awarded to a 2nd year Bachelor of Arts student with the best essay submitted as part of the prescribed work for a history subject.

Claire's prize-winning essay examined the contradiction between the allegedly revolutionary nature of 1960s and '70s rock music and the regressive treatment of women in rock music magazines.



2017 Jessie Mary Vasey Prize for Best Women's History Essay (3rd Year): Maille Halloran

Maille won the prize for her essay examining the second wave feminist movement and the emergence of independent feminist media. Using the University of Melbourne Archives' extensive Germaine Greer Collection, Maille delved into the purpose and politics behind the British publishing house Virago, which published work by Greer and other notable names. She explored the difficult balancing act performed by feminist publishing houses in the late 20th century as they navigated commercial viability alongside ideological stoicism.

The Jessie Mary Vasey Prizes for Women's History are supported by the War Widows' Guild of Australia.



**2017 Gyles Turner Prize:
Emma Hollis**

The winner of the 2017 Gyles Turner Prize for Australasian history was Emma Hollis. Emma's prize-winning essay explored the debate about birth control or "family limitation" in Australia during the first half of the twentieth century. There were vehement supporters both for and against birth control, and the debate reflected national concerns about racial consolidation, women's health, economic security in the family, and moral, religious and social development.

Emma writes, "I'm currently teaching English in Japan on the JET Programme. It's a learning experience for me every day, and I also get to teach my students about Australia's rich and multifaceted culture, society, and history in preparation for their school trip to Melbourne (including a visit to the University of Melbourne).

Studying History at the University of Melbourne was an incredible experience that not only shaped me as an academic but as a person, and has given me a set of skills that will stay with me for life, no matter where I go."



**2017 Donald Mackay History
Prize for Academic Merit:
Kacey Dawson**

Kacey's prize-winning essay was on Barbados' pirate culture, focussing on how piracy shaped the island's economic development.

Kacey writes, "My time studying history at Melbourne was wonderful. I started my degree with a vague interest in history but not idea where that would take me, and finished with a passion for a wide range of topics, spanning multiple countries and time periods. I loved the large variety of subjects available to us at Melbourne, as well as the passionate lecturers who have inspired me to pursue a career in this field."



**2017 Laurie R. Gardiner Prize:
Hannah Steel**

Hannah's prize-winning essay was an examination of the political legacy of the 17th century English Civil War, both as a defining moment in the development of constitutional monarchy and democracy more broadly.



2017 Bowen Prize for British History or British Literature: Ingrid Schreiber

Ingrid's thesis examined household medicine in seventeenth-century England, particularly the relationship of domestic kitchen-physic to commercial medicine and experimental science.

Ingrid writes, "Studying history at Melbourne exposed me to a wide range of interesting topics and subdisciplines, including intellectual history and historical epistemology, which continue to inform the path I'm taking after graduation. I particularly enjoyed the camaraderie and general enthusiasm for the past which so obviously animates the honours cohort and staff."

History Honours student **Catherine Gay** was awarded one of the six Ian Potter Museum of Art Miegunyah Awards for 2018.

The title of Catherine's project was "'All Life and Usefulness': Girls and Needlework in Late Nineteenth-Century Victoria".

Cat writes, "The award invites students from all faculties across the university to submit a proposal for a research topic, based on an object (or objects) from the Russell and Mab Grimwade bequest. It allows students to work closely with the collections and provides an opportunity to revision the items' purpose and import. My project centred around a needlework sampler. The sampler I examined was made in 1871 by a thirteen-year-old Mary A. Wilson. An anomaly in the Miegunyah Collection, it is likely the only item made by a child, let alone a girl, in the extensive bequest.

Drawing on my background in history and art history, my research examined the sampler as an example of girls' needlework practices in nineteenth-century Victoria. The project was essentially an extension of my Honours thesis. I tested the hypothesis that girls' material culture—the items they collected, collated and created—could be

used to draw broader inferences about their lives. Within the context of Victoria between 1870 and 1910, it suggested the possessions that girls created and used could serve as evidence of their agency and existence. The project viewed Mary's needlework sampler within this framework.

In a 20-minute presentation and final paper, I determined that girls' needlework played a significant role in colonial Victorian society. I drew on secondary historical literature to conclude that Mary's sampler is a material manifestation of Victorian girlhood. Symbols of industriousness and "usefulness," needlework is tangible evidence of the values and expectations colonial Victorian society placed upon its girls. A collective girlhood experience, learning to sew fostered productive femininity. I further contended that a daughter's needlework, like a wife's, would have improved "quality of life" for settler families. A sampler is ultimately a manifestation of agency—how girls directly shaped their own lives and the lives of those around them."



A sampler produced in 1871 by 13-year-old Mary A. Wilson, Miegunyah Collection.

Student Association News

History Postgraduate Association

The History Postgraduate Association (HPA) is the representative body for all research students in the history department. This year our elected committee consists of **Max Denton, Beth Marsden, Amy Hodgson, Divya Rama Gopalakrishnan** and **Paula Hendrikk**. In representing the interests of history postgraduates, this year the committee has first and foremost advocated for the fair allocation of desks.

Apart from these activities, we organised a seminar series in semester two, titled *Conundrums in the Archive*. During the series postgraduate students, academic staff and archivists reflected on unusual, challenging, exciting and emotional experiences of doing historical research in the archive. Speakers included **Kate Davison**, who addressed ethical concerns in her work with private archives and sexology history, and **Katie Wood** from the University of Melbourne Archives, who discussed challenges for historians and archivists in relation to provenance and authorship. A number of postgraduate students presented on their experiences in the archive. **Professor David Goodman** closed the series with his reflections on finding ordinary people in public archives, which was followed by a lively discussion on the ethics of identifying individuals in our work.

We are looking forward to launching our next seminar series for the upcoming semester under the title *Voices and Visualisation*. It will continue to explore personal reflections and ethical considerations on doing historical research, but now with a focus on visual and audio sources.

The committee has also been involved in organising the SHAPS Work in Progress Day, and has organised many social events including the welcome back drinks, a pub quiz and our traditional yearly Snifters Dinner. This year **Associate Professor Kate McGregor** addressed postgraduate students at the dinner with a lively and honest talk on her time as a PhD student at the University of Melbourne.

We would like to thank everyone who has supported us in our first semester and for attending our events, and we look forward to an engaging next semester with a new group of postgraduate students!

Divya Rama Gopalakrishnan
Max Denton
Beth Marsden
Amy Hodgson
Paula Hendrikk
—HPA Committee

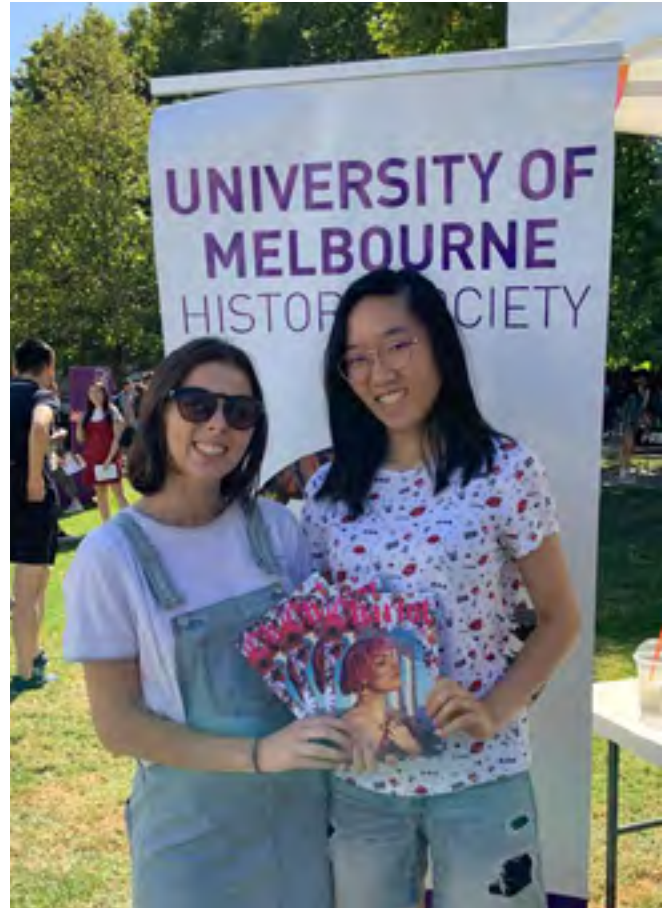


History Society

The year 2018 was a year of milestones for the undergraduate History Society. There were monumental milestones, like publishing the first print volume of *Chariot*; yet there were more mundane milestones too, like making enough profit to file the society's first ever tax return. However, the debatable crowning achievement came at the University of Melbourne Student Union's (UMSU) Clubs and Societies awards night, when the History Society managed to win the "Best New Club" award. Ultimately, these events should be taken as an omen of the brilliant future that awaits the society.

The year started off with no rest for the newly formed General Committee (GC). Brave GC members led by President **Jade Smith** endured the sweltering heat, congested crowds, and tinnitus-inducing music of Arts West Festival and Clubs Expo to meet new members and advertise the fine repertoire of events planned for 2018. Then came the greatest challenge to securing the society's position in the hearts and minds of the history cohort, actually delivering on its promises. Under the watchful eye of Education Officer **Conna Speelman**, a steady programme of bi-weekly study sessions began, with a diverse mix of energetic greenhorns and grizzled veterans in attendance. Yet amongst the most memorable moments of Semester One was the History Society's first ever trivia night; rumour has it that if you lingered after the end of the trivia night, you could see an extremely satisfied looking Treasurer in the corner. Additionally, the year saw collaboration with other clubs; the History Society must thank the Film Society for providing the laughs at the joint screening of *The Death of Stalin*.

The second semester saw the History Society rise further towards a golden age (let us hope that there are no dark ages in store). Students got the opportunity to explore distant corners of their campus as the room booking system continued to assign rooms outside of the Arts faculty. The second semester also brought another great achievement, the publishing of the first print volume of *Chariot*. The launch party was a truly momentous occasion, with stories shared and canapés consumed. The History Society would like to thank *Chariot* Editor **Danielle Scrimshaw** for her tireless and unwavering efforts in making the dream of an undergraduate History journal become a reality. Yet even after such a major achievement, the History Society would continue to make leaps and bounds, with a second trivia night and an indigenous heritage walk led by Wurundjeri Elder **Colin Hunter**. The year ended with a successful AGM overseen by Secretary **Tristram Feder** whose vote-counting skills made sure that the democratic ideals outlined in the History Society Constitution continued to be upheld.



Incoming Chariot editors Rebecca McGrath and Lindsay Wong.

Having survived its first year of existence, and with a new GC made up of fresh faces and hardened veterans, it appears that 2019 will only represent more growth opportunities for the History Society.

If you too wish to join the History society, head over to the [History Society facebook page](#) or join at the Qpay link below; membership for 2019 is three dollars. <https://umhsmembership.getqpay.com/>

Victor Sun

GC 2018

President: Jade Smith
Secretary: Tristram Feder
Treasurer: Victor Sun
Education Officer: Conna Speelman
General Members: Rebecca McGrath, Joshua Abbey, and Benjamin Cronshaw

GC 2019

President: Jade Smith
Secretary: Timothy Lilley
Treasurer: Victor Sun
Education Officer: Benjamin Cronshaw
General Members: Rebecca McGrath, Jesse Seeberg-Gordon, and Noah Ellis



Chariot Launch

About 40 people attended the launch of the inaugural edition of the Student History Society's journal, *Chariot*, on 8 August, held in the beautiful Research Lounge in Arts West. Some of the attendees were contributors to the journal, who were thrilled to see their hard work published in such an elegant volume. Other attendees were members of the History Society, and several staff members, including all of the Hansen appointees. **Dr Una McIlvenna**, Hansen Lecturer in History, gave a brief introduction and **Dani Scrimshaw**, the editor of the journal (pictured), gave a talk thanking the contributors and encouraging everyone to submit to the online edition of the journal as well. The drinks flowed for a few hours and everyone had a great time!

Postgraduate Research News



Hansen Trust Scholar Max Denton (commenced 2018)

It has been a great privilege to be the second-ever recipient of the Hansen Trust PhD Scholarship in History. I'm grateful to the generosity of **Jane Hansen** and **Paul Little** for the scholarship, and for the support of the History discipline at the University of Melbourne.

I have just completed my first year of my PhD, and it has been an exciting and enriching experience. My project is to write a history of same-sex marriage and commitment ceremonies in Australia and Britain in the twentieth century—looking at the history of marriage and sexuality in this period from a different perspective. From my archival work and interviews so far, I have explored the many and diverse ways that same-sex couples sought to express and celebrate their commitment prior to the legalisation of same-sex marriage. This includes the untold stories of clergy who were willing to marry couples in churches or private homes.

I'm excited to pursue this project, as it speaks to not just recent political events, but the ways in which marriage itself has evolved as a social institution over the last century. This year I'm looking forward to teaching and travelling to visit archives and conduct interviews. The Hansen PhD Scholarship has allowed me to undertake this research, and to access the other benefits of being a history postgraduate at the University of Melbourne. It has been an honour to become the HPA co-president and put together a fun and lively postgraduate seminar over two semesters.

I'm looking forward to kicking off our new seminar this year exploring non-written sources of history, including visual sources and oral history. It's a fantastic opportunity for postgrads to get together and discuss our work. I'm grateful to everyone who has gotten involved, especially the academics who have presented or will present to the group like **Professor David Goodman**, **Dr Mary Tomsic** and **Dr Jenny Spinks**.

Max Denton

Hong Kong University Spring History Symposium 2018

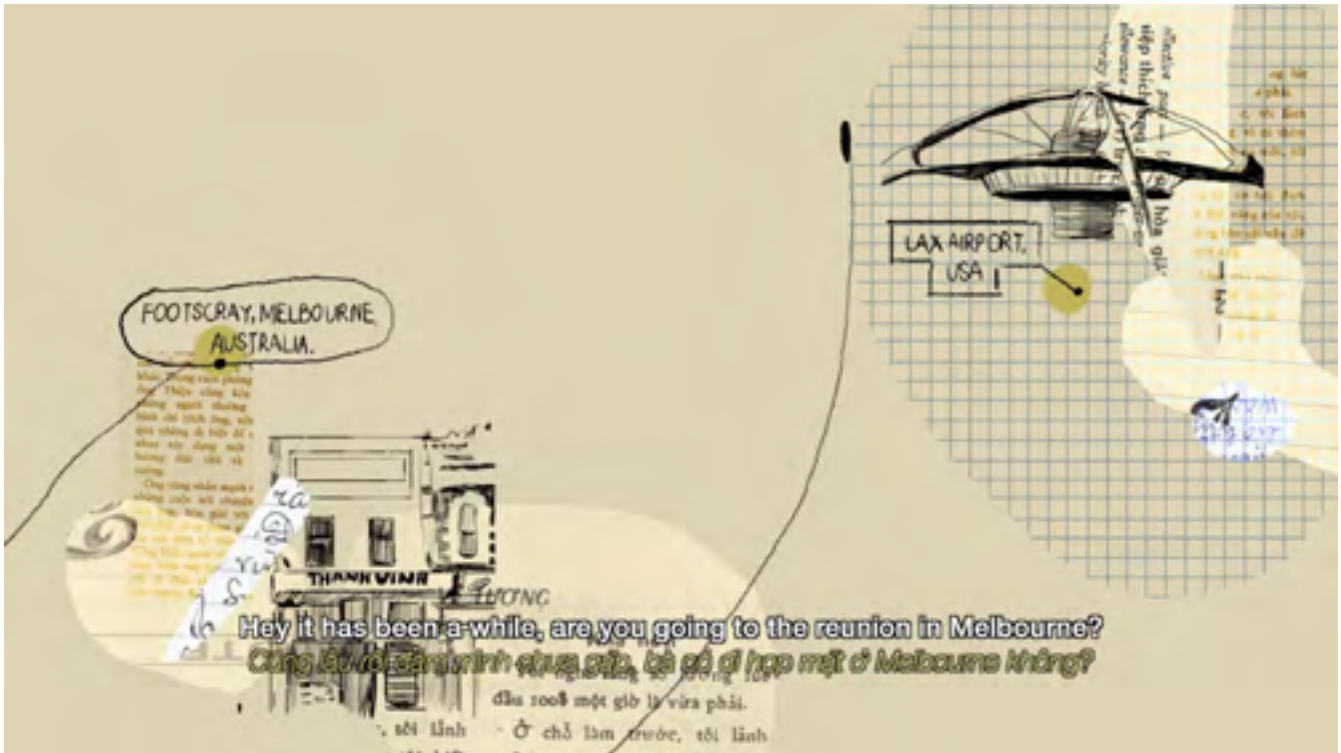
The Hong Kong University Spring History Symposium is an entirely postgraduate-run event that brings together history students from Hong Kong University and institutions across the world. This year, for the tenth annual Spring Symposium, HKU saw twenty-six student scholars present their work, and for the first time the Symposium ran for two days. Students came from the US, the UK, India, Japan, and Australia—including two of us from the University of Melbourne—for the event.

The Symposium themes were “Transnationalisms, Interactions, and Connections in Modern Asia and Beyond.” These themes yielded a rich selection of presentations. Several attendees commented that the Symposium felt very different to other conferences they had attended because of the regional focus of the papers. We agreed that because our work is often relegated to geographic panel streams, it was exciting to have the whole focus on our region and consider more closely the variety of themes and methods within. It was fantastic to learn about research we otherwise would not connect with, with topics ranging from piracy in the 19th century South China Sea, to radio as a method of subversion in 1960s Borneo, to the digital mapping of colonial photography on to modern-day Hong Kong.

For my own research, I was particularly interested in papers presented in the War & Society panel which brought to light how different institutions used cultural expressions of power in Indonesia and Japan to exert authority in wartime and postcolonial states. In the Gender panel, work presented on Amerasian children born in Korean GI camps drew out tensions of race and identity in Korea and America. These papers led me to rethink how I approach issues of postcolonial power in Việt Nam, as well as the broader social context of Australian and American soldiers who were also potential fathers in the Vietnam War.

The keynote lecture, “Cosmopolis and Vernacular: Competing Impulses in Asian History” was delivered by **Professor Anthony Reid**. Professor Reid reflected on a back-and-forth swing between globalizing and localizing trends. He revealed an ongoing pattern whereby new technologies and ideologies were introduced and imposed upon Asia before being seized by localities, hybridized, and enmeshed in the indigenous cultural fabric. Professor Reid encouraged us to contemplate what the future might hold in Asian histories, and given the political context of the day, led us to debate on whether the global populist surge of recent years were merely another ebb in the flow between the cosmopolis and the vernacular on the global stage.

Mia Martin Hobbs



SHAPS-VCA Animation Collaboration

Finally, we invite you to take a look at the short clips produced in 2018 by VCA Animation students showcasing the research being done by SHAPS postgrads in 2018 and giving students the opportunity to experiment with communicating their research in different forms, and experience in working collaboratively. These included two clips responding to History PhD projects underway in the school.

Animators **Jackson Cook** and **Jenn Tran** produced the clip “Reunion” in collaboration with History PhD candidate **Anh Nguyen**. The clip is a creative response to Anh Nguyen’s PhD project on how former refugees from the Vietnam War use Facebook to reconnect, build community, and share and document their memories.

Anh Nguyen comments:

“This was a segment of my PhD research about contemporary transnational history of childhood, refugees, and migration. It is about the Facebook communities that refugees have formed in digital diaspora, refugees reconnecting with refugees from the camps and boats that they were at or rescued by as children. The children of refugees have also assisted in reconnecting their parents with lost friends from the camps.

Facebook is a site of memory making for the refugee community. It reinforces positive associations with their identity and experience as refugees. Life does not end in the camp, it is only the beginning. The refugee camp no longer exists. They are well and alive on Facebook. Their lives are proof of survival, self-representation in history, and reunions are a part of living history.”

Jennifer Tran:

“Working with our researcher Anh Nguyen, was a truly great collaboration. I met with Anh at the beginning of the project which allowed Jackson and I to understand the theme closely and agree on the narrative angle for the animation. Anh gave us sources for images, stories and real interviews we could use for the narrative. Naomi and Nam are real refugees who were a part of Anh’s research and we used their stories as characters in our animation.

Jackson and I brainstormed ideas, wrote the script together and shared the animating between ourselves. As both of our strengths lie within 2D animation, animating was fun and rewarding. In the animation, I see how our animating styles have beautifully come together.

On a personal note too, the topic of Vietnamese refugees was very familiar as I come from a father who was a Vietnamese refugee. Through this, I was able to source my parents as voice actors and get the script translated into Vietnamese easily. I also used actual scanned photographs of my family when they were settling in Australia as well as hand written letters sent to my family as collaged decorations. I felt very lucky to be able to share my part of my family’s historical archive in the animation.”

Anh Nguyen:

“The VCA students were so professional. They sent me a proof of concept based on an oral history transcripts I had sent them. We met to discuss the research, history and images that could be used from Facebook. I had secured permission from the two interviewees featured in the transcripts for an animation and permission for VCA students to use creative license with their life stories.

I wanted something that was not about trauma since my research is about children's agency, adventure, self-determination in the history of migration. We focused on the tone, and they really just took the history and ran with it. I felt they really captured the spirit of the refugee children. I think they really captured the spirit of adventure, playfulness, intimacy of those friendships from the refugee camp."

VCA Animators **Mikayla Hotton** and **Lilly McPake** produced the clip "Hippy Way or the Highway", inspired by the research of History PhD candidate **Molly Mckew** on the history of counter-cultures in Melbourne in the 1960s-'70s.

Molly Mckew:

"My research focuses on the day-to-day lifestyles of people living in countercultural hubs like Carlton, Fitzroy and Prahran in the 1960s and '70s. Using primary research including oral history interviews, I am looking in particular at sharehousing, leisure, food, sexuality and various experiments with collectives and urban communes, and the ways in which politics became expressed through lifestyle choices in this era.

The idea behind the video was that it would showcase how progressive politics was put into practice through day-to-day lifestyle choices, and how these choices were politically loaded in many countercultural sharehouses in the late 1960s and in the 1970s.

Many depictions of this era seem to be about activism or are cliched party scenes, so we thought it would be interesting to depict a sharehouse where politics was part of the everyday fabric of the house. Many people I interviewed talked about how the minutiae of daily life was scrutinised for its progressive politics (or lack of), and the video hones in on this, depicting a discussion between two housemates.

In the background of this argument the house is active with people drifting in and out, playing folk music, doing yoga, chatting, and preparing for meetings or activism. The social, connected and exciting nature of sharehouses was something many people emphasised during interviews, and we wanted to show this as well as showcase some other countercultural interests of the time."

Animator Mikayla Hotton:

"In our animation we wanted to particularly capture the relationships between roommates of these housing communes, which was both good and bad. The stop motion focuses on the two women in the centre of the screen having

a conversation that quickly escalates into a more heated debate reflecting their different views. As their argument intensifies the space becomes more chaotic to the viewer. As the day quickly passes by, the room mates are seen to be going about their daily routines.

Fun facts about the film: The people are created through a process called Pixilation. Pixilation is a form of stop motion where live actors are shot on a frame by frame process in front of a camera and in this case in front of a green screen.

The background was a miniature dolls house size set that was filmed in stop motion. This enabled the handmade objects to be moved around the set, lighting to be modified to create a sunset and the clock to be slowly increasing in speed.

2D computer drawn animation was then added over the top for detailed sections such as the water in the glass, steam from the kettle, rain outside the window and dirty footprints on the carpet.

Another thing to note is that everything in the background (besides a few doll clothes) was hand carved from balsa wood and was then hand painted. The scale of the set is difficult to comprehend, but the real life measurements are reflected in the paint brush in the opening scene that is 4cm in length and the radio that is 2 cm in height."

This pilot collaboration was an initiative of the SHAPS Engagement committee and was coordinated by **Julie Fedor**, **Paul Fletcher**, and **Fallon Mody**. It was generously supported by SHAPS. The clips can be viewed [here](#).

Readers may also be interested in browsing some of the online resources that our postgraduates produce:

- [Australian and New Zealand American Studies Association blog](#) (Samuel Watts is one of the Managing Editors);
- [A Fashionable Promenade: The Nineteenth-Century Shopping Arcade in Australia: History, Heritage and Representation](#) by Nicole Davis; and
- [The History of Somali Piracy](#) by Sarah Craze.





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